yesterday, will be like killing the goose that lays the golden egg. Let not that foolish thing take place here. When considering the question of what is to be left for domestic consumption let it not be on the ration basis. Let it be sufficient to fill his stomach and enable him to work the fields properly.

Mr. President: That has been the rule throughout.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Sir, there is no manner of criticism or insinuation. I am glad for the information. We do not know what it is. I would give out to this House that he has not been given so much. I had to interfere with vakkalaths and in certain cases without Vakkalaths and see that he gets at least 3/4th of his requirements for domestic consumption. The rule is here. In working it is not sufficiently honoured.

Mr. President: The Hon'ble Member's request to the Government was to make the commandeering of paddy more rigorous. Now he is saying that it is too rigorous.

Mr. Joseph Petta *(Adur)*: The resolution has been slightly amended and the word "equitable" has been added.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Sir, as far as commandeering is concerned let it be more rigorous or most rigorous if possible. But as far as foling out for domestic consumption is concerned let it be more equitable. My complaint is that the working of the rule is not equitable. The rule is good. It may be worked out properly is my prayer.

In the light of the Government's helpful and willing and earnest attitude exhibited not only in the answer but in the faces of every member, there and as I find that the Hon'ble President has been pleased to note of the suggestions I do dot wish to press this motion to a division. I pray I may be permitted to withdraw.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

Demand for Rs. 13,67,843 under 39 Miscellaneous put and carried

Demand for Rs. 70 under 21 Miscellaneous—Cranganur—put and carried

29. Public Works—Rs. 16,31,431

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Sir, I move that a sum of Rs. 16,31,431 may be granted under 29 A. and B "Public Works".

The policy governing the framing of this budget has been largely based upon the special conditions prevailing in our State at present. The need for producing more food has laid emphasis on works of irrigation. The difficulty of getting labour and the high price to be paid for it and for materials has necessitated the increased demands for maintenance of communications. Buildings come last and the test of inescapability criterion has been applied rather sharply.

In our scheme of works of 1118 we have started the investigation of the Chalakkudi Irrigation project and the extensive surveys connected with it have just been completed. The scheme proposed is a large one and the surveys done in connection with it by our officers had also to be very extensive. You may gain some idea of the extent of the investigation if I say that it included a complete soil classification of sixteen villages and complete levelling and plotting of the entire area covered by these villages. This area is nearly seventy square miles. The Villages included in the scheme are—

1. Pariyaram, 2. Mattathur, 3. Perambra, 4. Kizhekke Chalakkudi, 5. Kodasseri, 6. Kodakara, 7. Potta, 8. Elinjipara, 9. Kollithurkara, 10. Alathur, 11. Aloor, 12. Kuruvilasseri, 13. Thazhakad, 14. Annallur, 15. Vadakkumbhagam and 16. Kallur Thekkummuri.

We have now collected records giving the exact heights of every square inch, so to speak, of land in this 70 square miles and this information is essential before any scheme of irrigation of any magnitude can be properly designed. The benefits which will be derived from this scheme are also great.

The paramba wastes including porambokes to the extent of 713 acres fit for conversion to double crop wet lands will be about 11,000 acres in extent. Virippu lands which can be converted to double crop will be about 4,000 acres in extent. So this scheme will bring under extra cultivation an area of about 15,000 acres besides indirectly benefitting about 6,500 acres of existing Mundakan lands in these villages.

It is not proposed to discuss now the details of the main and branch canals of the various irrigation structures proposed to be provided for the distribution of the systems nor do I think, it is expected at this stage. Anyhow I shall give the broad features of this scheme.

It is proposed to construct a low weir across the Chalakkudi river at a place called Thumbermuzhi, a short distance above Echipara. This will lead the water to a main canal

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controlled by a regulator consisting of three vents each of five feet in width. The main canal itself will be 20 feet wide and will have a fall of 1 foot in 2,200 feet. This will give a velocity of about 3·00 feet for the water in the canal. The velocity is suitable for the soil traversed as this will not either cause slit deposits in the canal or is it so high as to scour the sides of the canal. Its length will be 22 1·2 miles up to the Aloor Railway level crossing. Beyond this portion the main canal will have a length of 14 miles to the end. The work so far done is only up to the Railway Level crossing.

The main canal after leaving the head works crosses the saddle at Edumbankavala, and countors back east to cross the valley of Kappathodu. This is crossed at a very suitable place where nature almost pointed out the side to us.

From the main canal there are seven important branches. They are—

1. The Kuttikad Branch with a length of 2 miles and an ayacut of 1,300 acres.
2. The Kanjirappilli Branch—length 3½ miles and an ayacut of 600 acres.
3. The Muppiliam Branch with a length of 20 miles and an ayacut of 1,600 acres.
4. The Mattathur branch with a length of 5 miles 3 furlongs and an ayacut of 1,200 acres.
5. The Chalakkudi Branch with a length of 3½ miles and capacity 1,600 acres.
6. The Blachira Branch—length 4½ miles and an ayacut of 1,500 acres.
7. Kodakara Branch—length 5 miles and an ayacut of 780 acres.

Then there are a few smaller branches—The Echipara branch, the Areswaram Branch, the Mattupadam Branch, the Thycheri branch, the Potta and Perambra branches.

The entire area in the Mukundapuram Taluk on the north side of the Chalakkudi river and roughly to the east of the railway line will be commanded by this project. The estimated cost of the head works, main canals and branches including land acquisition is about 14·5 lakhs. The ayacut which will be served to the west of the railway line will be only 1,700 acres and the cost of constructing canals in that portion will be 4·000 lakhs.

On the receipt side, it is possible to sell 700 acres of poramboke waste at about Rs. 200 per acre for 1·4 lakhs. Again an inclusion fee of Rs. 20 per acre may be imposed for including the existing waste lands under the system. This will cause no hardship to the owners as these lands in the existing condition will not fetch more than Rs. 150 per acre whereas immediately after inclusion the cost may be more than Rs. 1,200 per acre.

I am speaking about the state of affairs during normal times. In fact, the whole report, estimate and revenue are based on this basis. Thus a revenue of 2 lakhs will be derived from this source. So it may be possible to strike off 3·4 lakhs of rupees from the capital cost.

Amount of revenue will thus be on 11,000 acres	
waste at 7½ per cent per acre	Rs. 82,500
4,000 acres of virippu land	Rs. 10,000
Total revenue	Rs. 92,500

I have not calculated any income from existing virippu and Mundakan lands even though these are subject to occasional droughts and will thus be benefitted by the scheme.

Deducting maintenance charges of say Rs. 9,000 the net revenue will be about Rs. 83,000 for a net investment of about 15 lakhs on the most conservative basis.

If however the less economical portion of the scheme *viz.*, that to the west of the Railway line is omitted, the expenses will be 4 lakhs less while the reduction in revenue will be only Rs. 16,150.

The completion of this comprehensive scheme will bring in appreciable areas under double crop cultivation and stabilise irrigation facilities in existing lands.

I must say that the Special Assistant Engineer Mr. Chathunny who has been deputed to this work and his assistant, notably Mr. Venkitachala Ayyar and others, have done their work most satisfactorily and thouroughly. The help which we received from Mr. Stephens who visited the State on three or four occasions in connection with this and other projects has been considerable.

Also with this scheme of diverting the waters of the Chalakkudi River it is also proposed for constructing a reservoir of about 68 million cubic feet capacity on the Pilliarmudi Basin for supplying water during the dry season.

Another scheme which we have undertaken is the faimilar Kambalathura Reservoir. As I had explained on a previous occasion, the defect of the original scheme was the extremely costly high level canal associated with it. This has now been completely eliminated and if there should

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be difficulty in keeping the reservoir filled in the event of any failure in the north east monsoon it is proposed as a second line of defence to adopt the filling up of it from the channel itself by means of pumps.

The Puthur Irrigation Scheme is also budgetted. The proposal is to construct a regulator across the river at Veembu and by means of a canal of six feet bottom width to lead about 50 causes to the single crop lands in the village of Marathakkara. Trikkur. etc. The scheme is proposed to be extended by taking branch canal from it to serve areas in Ollur, Chiyyaram, Kanimangalam and other areas to the west.

Another work proposed is the Desamangalam Lift Irrigation Scheme. The scheme is to benefit 1,500 acres of lands which could be converted into double crop by the installation of pumps delivering water from the Ponnani River.

Besides these schemes of fairly large magnitude, we have budgetted for a fair extent of protective works for irrigation. About 700 acres of Kariniloms will be protected by the Amballur Keecheri bund. These lands will then be able to support two crops instead of one which itself is now very precarious. Similarly an area of two hundred acres in Elankulam is proposed to be so protected. The work will be similar to the one we did at a place called Karnakodam where we had constructed a bund and protected lands a few years ago.

We have budgetted for a work in Edakolathur calculated to diminish the hazards due to floods for the viripu cultivation. This work is to be adapted also for bringing additional lands under Mundakan cultivation.

The improvements to the Vettuveli chira Bund also is to be taken up next year. This work will effectively prevent all future floodings of the Karingochira nilams in the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk and stabilise cultivation.

In the year 1119 we propose to take up the investigation for the construction of reservoirs at Peechi and Vazhani and to finalise the Naduthodu Irrigation project.

The projects will bring under cultivation further large areas of waste lands under double crop cultivation in the Trichur and Talappalli Taluks.

It has been stated that the State requires about 160 lakhs of paras of rice or about 1,43,000 tons. To make up the deficit, it will be necessary to bring under cultivation new areas to an extent of 40,000 acres of equivalent double crop lands.

We have now formulated definite proposals to bring under cultivation an area equivalent to 17,400 acres or nearly half of what we need. I am confident that it will not be a difficult task to find and irrigate the extra land of 23,000 acres required. I hope to bring in proposals in the course of the next year as the investigations are being completed.

Now to communications.—

The draft of the Road Board report has been circulated among the members and they are being considered by them. A generous provision of Rs. 61,000 has been made for the Vypeen Pallippuram Road and an amount of Rs. 30,000 for the Trichur—Machad Road.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: What is the amount for the Trichur —Machad Road?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Rs. 30,000.

In the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk is included roads in Chennamangalam Kureekad and Udayamperur, approach road to Nedungad and roads in Cheranellore.

In the Mukundapuram Taluk, there are the Pothani—Kakkathuruthi road, Andanikulam—Puthenchira, Kattur—Karanchira, Kallettumkara Railway Station—Thazhakad, Chalakkudi market—Vettikkadavu, Melur—Muringur, Kurumali Bund, Kattur—Kakkathuruthi, Vallivattam —Areepalam,

In the Trichur Taluk it is proposed to construct roads from Puthur—Manamangalam, Trichur to Manali, Amballur to Kallayi, Ammadam to Pallipuram, Pannikulam to Azhimukkil Ferry, Puthur to Trikkur, Pudukad Railway Station to Pazhanji, the continuation to the Kadanthodu bridge.

In the Talappalli Taluk we have the road from Alur—Mattam, Palanji Kattakambal, Kadavallur Palanji—British territory, Murinjitheri—Pallippadam, Mullurkara—Irunilakode, Kadavallur road—new Kadavallur Palanji road, Thanikudam—Machad.

In the Chittur Taluk it is proposed to have a road in continuation of the Alankadavu causeway, the Kunnamkattupathi Anicut road, Naduppunny road to Vannamada *via* Muttimanpallam, Nalleppilli to Vannamada road *via* Arandappallam road from Pattancheri school to Makkarvatty Patha and road dam below Moolathura Anicut.

Besides these there are provisions for widening road in the State in the Road Board programme.

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This year has been a difficult year for us in the matter of getting works done by contractors. With the dearth of labour, it has become difficult to procure building materials especially granite stones, timber, etc. The tendered rates of contractors have gone higher and higher and the cost of works has come up to 200 % to 300 % of what they would be during normal periods. Even if high rates are given, it was not possible to get works done if rice also is not distributed. This passing disturbance of conditions first affected road maintenance works which thereby was late by about two months. The collection of metal which should have been completed by the 15th April was completed only in most of the roads by the end of June. In some important roads the collection has not yet been completed. This has resulted in a temporary deterioration of the road surface in some places but they are now being rapidly corrected. The traffic on our roads has also become unduly heavy during this year consequent on the extraction of large quantities of timber, enormous quantities of fuel from trees cut down from twelve thousand acres of forests for the Hill Paddy cultivation. An enhanced provision is made in the next budget for maintenance of roads to cope up with the increased traffic.

The combined traffic of concentrated bullock carts and heavy lorries and ordinary motor cars is putting up a problem as road maintenance, which the old anti-deluvian mecadum roads can hardly be expected to cope with. The problem is aggravated by the very heavy rainfall which this year was continuous without the break even of a day, from the middle of May.

It is also aggravated by the improper planting of avenue trees close to road margins markedly narrowing roads disintegrating metal by dripping and causing great damages to roads.

A more permanent surfacing such as concrete is indicated in these circumstances. The cost of concrete surfacing is great. It may be about twenty thousand rupees a mile. But I have in mind a cheaper alternative which might be tried. This is to have two ribbons of concrete each 2½ feet wide and separated from one another by a distance of 2¾ feet. This will serve all manner of motor vehicles, from the small Austin Sevens to the large standing vehicles. This design will require only five feet width of concrete against twelve feet which would be otherwise required. The thickness of the concrete could also be reduced a little, say from five inches to four inches. This question is now being gone into by this Department and if that materialises I am sure it will be a great improvement in the right direction.

In the Mechanical and Electrical Department we have been taking electrical current from the Travadcore hydro-electric system for the past one year. The current was first switched on in Chowwara on the 8th of April 1942. The Ernakulam Town partially changed over to the hydro-electric power on June 5, 1943. We are taking power for another pumping station also. The total power consumed is about 400 KW and during the last year we purchased energy to the extent of about 1·98 million units, nearly two million units. The total capital expenditure incurred by the State at present in this connection is about 90,880. This includes also some wires, insulators and switching gear kept as stock.

I shall not take up any further time of the House with my speech as there are very important cut motions to be answered.

In the next year's budget emphasis is laid on Irrigation. With this object in view, we have increased considerably our staff of qualified engineers who are required for investigation and supervision of engineering works. The Department now possesses a good staff without which it would be impossible to organise works of large magnitude.

The coming year will witness the launching of quite a number of really worthwhile irrigation schemes calculated to increase Food Production which will go a long way to enable Cochin to ride the storm.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Before we proceed may I know whether the Puthur diversion scheme which was mentioned here can be combined with the Karuvannur flood diversion scheme. It more or less comes at the same place.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):* That is the fourth stage.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I think one is essential, the irrigation canal. The irrigation canal may not be more than 30 or 50 cuseks while the capacity of the drainage canal will be about 1,500 cuseks. It may not be possible to combine both the two together.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* By taking up the flood diversion scheme cannot the other thing also be done ? *i. e.*, diverting water for irrigation purposes also.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* If the flood diversion canal has to be effective, the canal must be large and the distance of the canal must be short, while for irrigation we want a kind of canal through the high parts so that large areas may be commanded by it.

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Mr. President : Cut motions 1 to 20 of the list are not under the proper heads. They will not be moved now. They will be taken up later under the proper heads.

CUT MOTION No. 19

Deplorable condition of roads especially—Ernakulam

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,82,621 for Establishment by Re. 1.* The object of the cut is *to discuss about the deplorable condition of our roads and in particular the roads in Ernakulam.*

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* With the permission of the Hon'ble Chair, I want to place this fact. In view of the fact that we have not gone as speedily as possible, probably due to me, I would suggest that the President might be pleased to fix a time limit for the mover as well as to the other persons. Otherwise we may not be able to get through all the cut motions.

Mr. President: I am glad that the suggestion has come from the right quarter. We may draw a line. If it is the suggestion by the House that a limit should be placed I have no objection. I do not know what the Hon'ble Members feel about it.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Five minutes for the mover and less for the others.

Mr. Joseph Petta *(Adur):* The Standing Orders in this respect may be followed.

Mr. President: I would limit it as follows. Ten minutes to the mover and 5 minutes to the other members as also for the reply of the mover; and ten minutes to the Government speaker.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* As soon as a motion is made the Government decision on the subject may be kindly given.

Mr. President: I cannot accept that, the Government Member will speak at the end.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* This is not intended as a censure motion against the Department. The fact is there that the roads in our State are in a deplorable condition. We cannot travel from Ernakulam to Trichur with ease. So far as that portion of the road is concerned *i. e.*, from Chengal to Karukutty Travancore portion of the road, we have to spend two hours or three hours. I am not blaming our Government for that purpose. Our Government may by diplomatic representations get the Travancore Government to repair that road or request them to hand over that portion of the road to us. Ernakulam and Trichur are in Cochin State. We want to go from Ernakulam to Trichur very expeditiously. If the roads are in a hopeless condition we cannot travel in quickness. So also to go to Malayattur from Ernakulam it is very difficult. The bus also is stopped on account of the Travancore portion of the road.

Then coming to Ernakulam, last week or week before last, there has been some improvement. Some mud or some earth has been spread in a spasmodic manner. The Edappilli road is in a most hopeless condition. We cannot go in a Rickshaw without getting stomach-ache or without our bowels being upset. Therefore, Government may please look into the matter very carefully and improve our roads as quickly as possible.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Sir, as I have explained to the House in my speech there has some trouble in the matter of maintenance of roads this year on account of scarcity of labourers and difficulty of getting materials such as granite stones. Now the Ernakulam town roads about which the member made special mention of were in a really bad condition a few weeks ago both on account of dearth of labour and materials and also of the extraordinarily heavy traffic caused by the military lorries. Government just now passed orders tranferring the roads to P. W. D. We have just got the material and I hope in two or three weeks the roads will be in a good condition.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* The maintenance of the roads on the other side also has to be attended to.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We have just now taken the roads on which there is heavy military traffic. I believe the Municipality will look after the other roads.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is the Department aware of the condition of the roads at present?

Mr. President: The Government has knowledge of this. I may add that one reason for the delay is that we have been making representations for a proper contribution from the

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military authorities. There has been a protracted correspondence. We were at one time hoping to have the road surfaced with bitumon. We have not so far succeeded. Now we have undertaken to repair the road hoping to get a contribution. Later on we will be responsible for the improvement of roads where there is the heaviest traffic. The Municipal Council will look after the less important roads.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know if the pits in the middle of the roads are filled up?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* All the pits have been filled up.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I may give for the information of the Hon'ble Member that the road from Mattancheri Municipal premises to the South every furlong is pitted with any number of pits into which even pedestrians can fall.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I inspected that road a week ago and I found that the most unsatisfactory portion of the road was near the hospital and these areas have been repaired now.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I just remind the Government in the matter of repair of trunk roads what is happening is that when one road is spoiled by the military they adopt another route so that every road is spoiled.

Mr. President: This seems to be exaggerated. Is not the distance over some hundreds of yards.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Certainly not, sir.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* About 1½ miles.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* That covers the limit of the Ernakulam Municipal area. There is no exaggeration at all.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* As soon as the main road is repaired military traffic will be diverged along that road.

Mr. President: Arrangements are being made by the military authorities to see that the roads used by them are properly repaired and contribution made for the works.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* In the light of the observations made, I may be allowed to withdraw my motion.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I point out, Sir that two of my cut motions— 2 and 3 will come under this head.

Mr. President: No, you read the motions.

CUT MOTION No. 20

Construction of Chalakkudi—Vettikadavu Road

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* I beg to *move that the allotment of Rs. 1 lakh for contribution to Road Board be reduced by Re. 1.* The object of this cut motion is *to take up the construction of the road from Chalakkudi Market to Vettikadavu in the year 1119.* I am very thankful to the Hon'ble Members of the Road Board and the Chief Engineer for including this road in the Road Board scheme. It was long overdue and regarding the troubles the people of the locality had to put up with I have repeated several times in this House.

Mr. President: The work has been taken up.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* If the Government want further testimony, the Excise Commissioner who passed that way in Mithunam will be able to give. He has experienced very great difficulty. It is all very difficult for people to go to Chalakkudi.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

Mr. President: Cut motion No. 24 of the printed list is disallowed because it is a matte for the Travancore Government.

CUT MOTION No. 21

Pynkulam—Killimangalam Road—necessity of taking up by P. W. D.

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* To *reduce the allotment of Rs. 6,05,035 for communications by Re. 1.* The object of this motion *is to discuss the necessity of taking the Pynkulam Killimangalam road by the* P. W. D. May I know whether there is any recommendation by the Road Board in connection with this?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The Road Board has not yet made any recommendation. This question was placed before the Road Board but the present Board—

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Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* Not the present Board. Was it recommended by the old Board?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It was recommended by the old Board. It is under consideration.

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* Is there any provision made now?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No provision is made. In fact there is no necessity to make any allotment for that work. It has only to be transferred to the P. W. D.

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* Is there no allotment?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There is no allotment for capital works on that road in 1119. That is a panchayat road.

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* Was there not a recommendation from the Board?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* That recommendation of the previous board was not accepted by the present Board. However this question will be placed before them in the next meeting and their advice taken.

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* In view of the assurance given by the Chief Engineer I do not want to press this motion. I do not want to press it.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 22

Thoravumkara Road—Opening of

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 6,05,035 for Communication* by Rs. 2. *To bring to the notice of the Government the necessity to open a road in Thoravumkara in Sreemoolanagaram Panchayat.* The Panchayat cannot afford to take up this work. There are regions in the State where the Government cannot even show us a pathway. I think this work is very urgent. I want to know whether it has been.....

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There is a proposal to construct a panchayat road—

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* The Road Board would have taken the matter if they were informed of it.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* That question has not been considered by the Road Board.

Mr. President: Was it ever put before the Road Board?

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* I think it is to be left to the Panchayats to construct the road. The Minister may look into the matter.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* If it is under the Panchayats, the local Panchayat will look into it. We have given a lump allotment. If it is a real necessity, they will do it.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* It is a real necessity.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Then the Panchayat will look into it.

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal):* It will be too big for the Panchayat to take up.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Then the Road Board will come there.

Mr. President: Place the matter before the Road Board. The Board will consider it.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The question of opening a road in Sreemoolanagaram Panchayat has not been placed before the Road Board in any form. This is the first time we hear about this necessity.

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal):* Last time I sent a resolution.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* But that did not come up. Had this proposal been brought before the Government in any form we would certainly have placed this before the Road Board and due consideration given to it.

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal):* Can this be placed now?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I shall place it before the Road Board though it is too late.

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal):* With the assurance given I withdraw.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

The House rose for lunch at 1-30 p.m. and reassembled at 2-30 p.m. with Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan, Deputy President in the chair.

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CUT MOTION No. 23

Wooden bridge over Vakya Canal

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal):* Sir, the motion is: *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 6,05,035 for communication by Rs. 2.* (To consider the urgent necessity to construct a wooden bridge over the Vakya Canal in Malayattur).

I would like to inform the Chief Engineer that the urgent necessity of the bridge has been previously brought to the notice of the Goverment several times by the inhabitants of the place. There is a big colony on the eastern side of the canal and in the monsoon it would be very risky to cross over to the other side. There is a reported case of drowning even. The cost involved in this will be very small. On the other side there is a forest thana, and therefore the Forest Department will also be benefitted by the construction of the bridge.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The proposal to construct a bridge across the Vakya Canal, Malayattur, was placed before the Road Board. This is a very small work which may cost about Rs. 2,500, but the Road Board thought that this work though useful, may not have as much importance as to place it before the next Road Board scheme and so they have not recommended this work for inclusion. They thought this is a small work which was well within the scope of the Panchayat to look into. Any way, the meeting of the Road Board is approaching and I shall place the matter before the Board again for consideration. They have already remarked, as I said already, that this is a small work, probably not so important as to figure in the next Road Board programme. However, I shall place it again before the Road Board and get their views on this point.

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal):* I withdraw, Sir.

The motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 24

Road connecting the Chalakkudi—Anamalais Road with the Nelliampathy Road

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,897 for Civil Engineering—Subordinate Executive Staff by Re. 1. Connecting the Chalakkudi-Anamalais Road with the Nelliampathy Road end* I will deal with this very briefly. First of all I deal with the feasibility of the proposal. The Chalakkudi-Anamalais Road is now being opened up. It is going due east, to the Cochin border. Therefore it is not very difficult to connect the road end of the Nelliampathy ghat road with the new road.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* How many miles ?

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* According to Mr. Kaye of Thuthumpara Estate, it will be some where about four to eight miles to Thuthumpara from the Oriental Estates, in the Nelliampathies. I have walked with the Conservator of Forests and the Superientendent of the Oriental Estates to the Thuthumpara. From Thuthumpara to Kuriarkutty, it will not be between 5 and 8 miles. Kuriarkutty, as you all know, is on the Tramway line. When Sir Shanmukham visited the Nelliampathies, the Chief Engineer was also with him. This matter of taking a road to Thuthumpara, of connecting it with the Chalakkudi—Anamalais Road, was considered then. Mr. Kaye had already asked for taking a road to Thuthumpara and he had already pressed for it. If he cuts up that road the rest will be easy and the lie of the land is favourable too.

The advantages are, in the first place, that you open up a lot of land fit for paddy and other cultivation. There is one valley between Thuthumpara and Kuriarkutty, about 20,000 acres in extent, a huge depression, excellent for any kind of food crop, because the elevation is far lower than other places, being about 2,000 feeet. There is plenty of water supply also. The second is to open up the Highlands for opening up plantations. Today we have heard a reply from the Government benches that the area under plantation is very little, in answer to my questions and that the only thing that the Government have done durning this five years is to grant 600 acres for planting. If we open up this road it would be a wonderful improvement. That is to say, by that we open up the high-lands of Cochin.

Thirdly, we get a road to Nemmara through Cochin territory and I suppose the Nemmara and Chittur people will be interested in that. We will be getting a through road from Chalakudi to Nemmara politically we will not be dependent upon British India for taking our food supplies and other articles. The opening of this road seems to be a very feasible and advantageous scheme.

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Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Before proceeding further, by way of information, I would like to know....

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: I also request that if the immediate reply is not possible or available, this may be placed before the next meeting of the Road Board so that the matter may be considered after inspection.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I would like Sir, to get a piece of information on this point. With regard to the first section of the Chalakkudi-Anamalais Road, it is stated in the speech of the Diwan President, that the earth work is over, the bridge work and metalling is being done and would be completed. There is a provision of 3 and odd lakhs in the budget for the next year. I would like to know whether that amount of 3 and odd lakhs is to be spent upon the first section about 20 miles, or whether there will be sufficient money for continuing the road by taking up the second section also.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Along with the expenditure which has already been incurred on this road, the expenditure at the end of 1119 as budgetted will be 4·34 lakhs of rupees. That is the estimated amount for completing the first section of the Chalakkudi-Anamalais Road. The first section will consist of about 24 miles of road, including all the bridges along the route. We have not made any extra provision for the second section of the road next year.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: About my suggestion?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer:)* The suggestion of linking Nelliampathi road with Chalakudi-Anamalais road is indeed a very good one. This question of connecting Nelliampathi with Chalakkudi has been once gone into by me some years ago. That was in connection with the Peringalkuthu Hydro-Electric scheme. I once had the opportunity to walk from Padagiri to Kuriarkutty along the Cheriakadavu valley and I found that the road is eminently feasible and extremely easy for construction *(Hear, hear)* And the road from Kuriarkutty to meet the Chalakkudi-Anamalais road may be a little more difficult, because there we have to climb down the Peringalkuthu fall, the whole terrain has to be blocked and that portion may be a little difficult. But the advantages of connecting the Nelliampathis with Chalakkudi have got to be carefully looked into before a large expenditure can be incurred on that road. It is not exactly true that we will have the same benefits as the opening of the Chalakkudi-Anamalais road which will bring Pollachi within easy reach of Chalakkudi. No such great market exists on the Nelliampathi end of this road. This matter has again to be looked into properly before a final decision can be made on it.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: Do you know what would be the distance?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: From Padagiri to Kuriarkutty it is about 12 to 14 miles.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: That is from Padagiri. From Thuthumpara?

Mr. V K Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: From Thuthumpara, it will be much less. From Kuriarkutty to Peringalkuthu it is nine miles and from Peringalkuthu to the place where the Chalakkudi-Anamalais road comes, it will be about 21 or 24 miles will be length from Padagiri, it may be 20 miles from Thuthumpara.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know, Sir, what will be the reactions of this road upon the Peringalkuthu scheme, if once you are able to take it up?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Ehgineer)*: It will be considerably of great help. Even the first section of the road-Chalakudi-Anamalais Road-will be of great help for the Peringalkuthu scheme. In fact, we have estimated, we have set apart, some 2 lakhs even for the Peringalkuthu scheme.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Mr. President, Sir, with the information that is very kindly placed before the house, I have to submit before this House that the suggestion contained in the cut motion is one which the Government may be pleased to look into at the earliest possible time and date and with the most serious and sympathetic consideration that the question deserves. I do not find my way to agree with the Hon'ble Member for Public Works when he says that the advantages of this question have to be looked into before this matter is taken up. Of course, the advantages of a scheme have to be looked into before the scheme is taken up. It is well known. But the suggestion contained in the remark of the Hon'ble Member for Public Works, according to me, was that they are not so manifest. But there is this advantage, namely, the road connects Cochin

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State, after passing through a bit British land, with one of the biggest markets in the Coimbatore District, namely, Pollachi, and the advantages of such a connection are too well known. About the possibility of taking this question, I am glad to note, that the Hon'ble Member for Public Works is very clear on the question that the first section of this connection that is from the Nelliampathi road, is very easy and feasible, easy of construction. The second portion up to Kuriarkutty or even to the junction will be a little more difficult he says. Of course, it cannot be a case of smooth sailing throughout and it is for that that we have got an efficient Public Works Department. I believe that the work is one which could be taken up without much difficulty and so it has to be taken up and completed. That being so, as far as the merits of the cut are concerned, I whole-heartedly support it.

One more observation and I have done. It is this. From the budget it is seen, as stated by the Hon'ble Member for Public Works, that at the end of 1119 we will have to spend 4,34,509 rupees of which a portion *viz.* Rs. 1,41,005 will be spent by the end of the year. As seen from the budget, there will be only 3 and odd lakhs to be spent upon the Chalakkudi—Anamalais Road next year and it is also stated that the provision of Rs. 4½ lakhs is to be spent for the first section of the road. Therefore we want to know if the second section is not going to be taken up next year or not. We should like to know from the Government whether it is not their intention to continue the work of this road fully, that is spending the original estimate of 8 and odd lakhs. That is a point which we would like to know from the Hon'ble Member. Our position, Sir, therefore, is, if it is not the intention of the Government to take up the work and complete it we would certainly denure. We would urge that this road be made complete, that is the whole of it first section as also second section should be taken up and the work completed at the earliest possible date, coming forward to this House, if the money already provided for is not sufficient, for supplementary grants, for which you are not seen to be not very reluctant. You can come up with supplementary demand, and this House will be only too pleased to grant that demand regard being had to the importance of the work.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* This is a capital work.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Oh, yes, it is something to be done behind our back. I regret my ignorance. Still the urge is that it be completed at the earliest possible date. So, on behalf of my Party, I support the cut motion.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I have only to say that the question of Anamalais—Chalakkudi Road was first inaugurated by the Government on their own initiative *(Hear, hear)*, and the work has been started in right earnest. Of course, in a work of this magnitude, we have been faced with certain difficulties, the foremost among them being the present times—dearth of labour and food materials has to a great extent hampered the progress of the work. The tenders which we received for the various sections of the work are staggering. I just now gave a work on that road on a contract for the construction of bridge and culverts. For the second ten miles, the lowest tender was for 150 per cent above the estimated rates. If the estimate is for Rs. 1,000 we have to pay Rs. 2,500. That is, if the estimated cost for a road is 8½ lakhs, at the present rate, the cost is going to be 2½ times that, that is 20 lakhs of rupees. Even if you give this money, even if you give this enhanced rate, the progress of the work is also very much hampered on account of the food situation and heavy malarial nature of the country. The question is whether we should push on with this work at this extra cost, or should we just complete one section of it and then go a little slowly. This is a point which is worth considering. The original capital scheme and the profit and loss account have been based on the cost of the work, original cost of the work, estimated at 8 lakhs and if conditions were normal, we could have done with it. Should we spent 20 lakhs of rupees and complete the work now is a matter which should be considered by this House also. It is not our intention at all to stop the work now. It is our intention to continue the work and complete it as early as possible under the circumstances.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* So far as the motion under consideration is concerned, I find that the Government will consider the question in detail. I would like to put in one point more. Its possibilities seem to be immense. On account of this road we can develop the Peringalkuthu Hydro-electric scheme and supply electric power through the State, and abolish all the thermal stations; power can be supplied from Peringalkuthu to many places; we will have no need then to take power from Chandri & Co., or from Travancore.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In short, all prosperity.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Hundreds of industries can be started. We can supply power to British parts also. It seems to be a wonderful possibility. The Government ought to take

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up this question in right earnest. I would ask the Government to take us into confidence in this matter. I, therefore, place this for the acceptance of the House.

Motion put and carried

CUT MOTION No. 25

Metalling one half of the road at a time

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* It reads: *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,897 for Civil Engineering—Subordinate Executive Staff by Re. 1 (the policy of metalling one half of the road at a time).*

This is a small thing. I suggest that one half of the road (lengthwise) may be metalled at one time and then the other half. The difficulties now experienced can be minimised. How many feet get sore, how many bullocks have become lame? The motion seeks to do away with this difficluty. The proposition is self-evident and therefore I pass it on without any speech.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The proposal is to metal the road for half the width at one time. The width of metalling on most of the roads is only 12 feet and if we do only portions, it will be only a width of 6 feet and the work will not be satisfactory.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* If the road has a width of 40 feet, the metalling may be 20 feet, and so there won't be any difficulty. This can be done, I suppose.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The roads are metalled only to a width of 12 feet, at a few places it may be 16 feet. So the maximum width is only 8 feet and this piece-meal metalling may not be satisfactory.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* So you don't metal the whole width of the road.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No, the road is metalled only to a width of 12 feet, or 16 feet in certain cases.

It is not practical too.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* For about one mile at Pudukad, a policy of concreting the road is seen adopted. I think this is the best policy to be adopted in all roads. It will be beneficial to the road using public as well as those who travel in vehicles. I suppose the Government will accept it as a matter of policy, though not of expediency at the present moment.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I agree with some sort of permanent mode of road surfacing is extremely necessary for our roads in the State. We are still at the anti-deluvian methods. The present method is found to be extremely unsatisfactory, especially when one has to deal with a combined traffic, both of lorries and bullock carts. For that purpose, I have just indicated in my budget speech, a via media solution, that is having two ribbons with an intermediate space of $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, so that there may be space enough for two vehicles to pass along-side. The only trouble comes up when another vehicle has to cross, and such cases will be very rare on our roads. If one motors from here to Trichur, probably he may cross 8 or 9 vehicles. If this scheme is adopted, the cost per mile may be about Rs. 8,000, but the maintenance expenses would be considerably less.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* What is the present cost of maintenance?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I think the cost comes to about Rs. 400 or 300 per mile. If these concrete ribbons are put in, I think the maintenance charges will be much less. I am working out this scheme and I shall be placing it before the Government shortly.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* In view of this, I may be allowed to withdraw my motion.

The motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 26

Kanayannur and Pulikkamali—Connecting by a road

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,897 for Civil Engineering —Subordinate Executive Staff by Re. 1.*

The object of this cut motion is *to bring to the notice of the Government the need for connecting Kanayannur and Pulikkamali by a road (a road exists over most of the way).*

Pulikkamali, as the Hon'ble Chief Engineer knows is only about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Kanayannur. Already there exists a road. The only thing is connecting it up in which case we save about two or three miles while we go to Peppathipara. At Pulikkamali there is a school. I hope the Chief Engineer will see to this.

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* This is a very small road. I shall see what I can do in the matter.

Motion, by leave withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 27

Opening of the Vallithara Thodu

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,897 for Civil Engineering —Subordinate Executive Staff by Re. 1.*

The object of this cut motion is *to discuss the necessity of opening the* വല്ലിത്താ തോട് *to the west of Kanjiramattam market by opening the* കൈത്തോട് *between* പുളിമൂട്ടിൽ വക്കീ's *house and* കാഞ്ഞിരക്കാട്ട് ഭാവീ's *house to bring it up to the road and to have a tank for boats.*

The idea is to have a thodu to the south west of Kanjiramattam market between the two places mentioned. At present there is no water communication to the market. There is already a big road between Keecheri and Mulanthuruthi. The idea is that this thodu should be connected to the road. There is a big market near the road. The Hon'ble the Chief Engineer has been pleased to visit the spot. The next request is to have a tank for boats.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* This is a fairly useful work and I shall see what I can do when I do a work there in connection with Amballur Keecheri bund. Along with that work I shall see whether the thodu can be opened.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Thanking the Chief Engineer, I withdraw the motion.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 28

Road from Pulikkamali to Arakkunnam

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,897 for Civil Engineering — Executive Staff by Re. 1.* The object is *to discuss the need for connecting the road from Pulikkamali to Arakkunnam in the Mulanthuruthi Village.*

This is just to supplement what I have demanded in Cut Motion No. 4. In Arakkunnam there is a High School. There is a market. The Hon'ble Member for Education has inspected that place and he has accorded sanction for a High School. It is a road which is absolutely necessary. The whole place is infested with cobras. There is not even a path-way. There are people there who have not seen a road. If a road will be opened, you may not have to pay any acquisition charges even. If only, the Chief Engineer will communicaie with me, I shall make arrangements for acquisition without cost. The distance may not be ½ a mile or ¾ of a mile. I understand this has been recommended by the Road Board. I am thankful to the Road Board. They have placed it in the five year's scheme. If it has not been done I press it may be taken up.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The proposal is for opening a road which will serve as a connecting link to Arakkunnam. This was considered by the Road Board and they have not recommended this. It connects two Panchayat roads and our Departmental officers suggested that the small road can easily be done by the Panchayat. I shall place this matter before the Road Board and the Hon'ble Minister.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will you kindly transfer it to the Panchayat?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* This is a fresh proposal. I shall place the matter before the Hon'ble Minister.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

Motion by leave withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 29

Intermediate class compartments in Shoranur-Cochin line

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal): To reduce the allotment of Rs 26,260 for establishment by Re. 1* The object is *to consider the desirability of adding Intermediate class compartments in the Shoranur-Cochin Line.*

The sufferings of the third classs passengers are as old as the Railways in India. The third class compartments are overcrowded and most of our middle class people are therefore inclined to pay a little more. But there is no intermediate class. I don't think this requires any speech. Most of the railways in India have got such a class.

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Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and accounts):* This very question of having an intermediate class compartment in our railway was considered before and the South Indian Railway was actually addressed on it. As it was not in existence generally in their line, they did not favour it and therefore we had to drop it. Anyway, if the House is for it, there is no objection to address them again if it is absolutely necessary, though once before when we addressed them, they did not favour the idea.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Before anything is addressed to the S. I. R. regarding the feasibility or the necessity for an Intermediate class I would like to draw the attention of the Government that the number of trains running between Ernakulam and Trichur may be increased This is a luxury, I may say, the other is a necessity.

Cut motion put and carried

CUT MOTION No 30

Dangerous and deplorable condition of Velur Road

Mr. C. K. Nayar *(Memmara): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,260 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

വേലൂർ റോഡിന്റെ ശോചനീയവും ആപല്ക്കരവുമായ നിലയെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനെ ധരി പ്പിക്കുകയാണു് ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശം.

സർ, തൃശ്ശിവപേരൂർ വടക്കാഞ്ചേരി നിരത്തിൽ കുറാഞ്ചേരിയിൽനിന്നു പുറപ്പെട്ട തൃശ്ശി വപേരൂർ കുന്ദംകുളം നിരത്തിൽ കേച്ചേരിയിൽ ചെന്നവസാനിക്കുന്ന ഒന്നാണു് ഈ വേ ലൂർ റോഡ്. കുറാഞ്ചേരിയിൽനിന്നും ൫ മൈൽ ദൂരം കരിങ്കല്ല വിരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. കരി ങ്കല്ലിട്ട ഭാഗത്തിനു ഇന്നും മൈയിലിനു ൫ ൦ ൦ ക. യോളമൊ മറ്റൊ മേയിൻറനൻസു ചിലവു വരുന്നുമുണ്ടു്. കരിങ്കല്ലിടാത്ത ഈ റോഡിന്റെ ആറിലധികംനാഴിക നിളംവരുന്ന ഈ റോഡിൽ ചരലിട്ടു നേരെയാക്കുകയായിരുന്നു മുമ്പൊക്കെ ചെയ്തിരുന്നതു്. അടുത്ത ചില കാലങ്ങളായി 'കാറർപില്ലർ' എന്ന യന്ത്രവിശേഷംകൊണ്ടു റോഡിന്റെ ഇരുപുറങ്ങളിലുമു ള്ള മണ്ണു് റോഡിന്റെ മദ്ധ്യഭാഗത്തേക്കു തട്ടിനീക്കി നിരത്തിയാണു് റോഡു സംരക്ഷണം നി വ്വഹിക്കപ്പെടുന്നതു്. വാഹന ഗതാഗതം ഒട്ടധികമുള്ള ഒന്നാണു് ഈ നിരത്തു്. ഇതിന്റെ കിഴക്കെ പകുതിയിൽ ദിവസേന ൧ ൫ പ്രാവശ്യവും പടിഞ്ഞാറെ പകുതിയിൽ ൧൫പ്രാ വശ്യവും ബസ്സോടുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഭാരവണ്ടികളെത്രയാണു പോകുന്നതെന്നു തീർത്തുപറയുവാൻ വി ഷമവുമാണു്. ഈവഴിയെ പോകുന്ന അടക്കവണ്ടിയൊന്നുമാത്രം മതി അതിനെ അലങ്കോ ലപ്പെടുത്താൻ. കരിങ്കല്ലിട്ടഭാഗത്തിനു ബാധകമല്ല. റോഡിന്റെ മറ്റഭാഗം ഇന്നൊന്നുകാ ണേണ്ടതാണു്. മുട്ടോളം താഴ്ന്ന ചേക്കുണ്ടുകൾകൊണ്ടു നിറഞ്ഞതാണതെല്ലും. ഇടക്കിട ക്കു ആളുകളെ ഇറക്കിയാണു് ബസ്സുകൾ ആവവഴിക്കു പോകുന്നതു്. ചില ദിവസങ്ങൾക്കു മു മ്പെ, ഒരു രാത്രി ഭാരവണ്ടിയൊന്നു ഈ ചേക്കുണ്ടിലൊന്നിൽ ചെന്നിറങ്ങുകയുണ്ടായി. അ വിടെനിന്നും അതിനെ തള്ളിക്കയറ്റുന്നതിനിടയിൽ വണ്ടിമറിഞ്ഞു നിലംപതിച്ചു. തള്ളി ക്കയറ്റുവാൻ ശ്രമിച്ചവരിലൊരാൾ വണ്ടിയുടെ അടിയിലുമായി. വളരെ പ്രയാസപ്പെട്ട അതിനടിയിൽനിന്നും അവനെ വലിച്ചെടുത്തു. അവനപ്പോൾ ബോധരഹിതനായിരുന്നു. ചിലർ ഓടി എന്റെ വീട്ടിലെത്തി. അവനെ ഞാനപ്പോൾതന്നെ വടക്കാഞ്ചേരി ആസ്പ ത്രിക്കയച്ചു. അവന്റെ കാലിലെ എല്ലു മുഴവൻ തകർന്നുപോയിരുന്നു. ഇത്തരം അപകട ങ്ങളുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടാനിരത്തിൽ.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ജെ. മത്തായി: അതു ആളെക്കൊല്ലി റോഡാണു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. നായർ: ഇതാണു് ആ റോഡിന്റെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെനില. സക്കാരു ദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ആരെങ്കിലും ആ വഴിയിൽക്കൂടി കാറിൽവന്നാൽ അവർ പണംകൊടുത്തു വാങ്ങിച്ച കാറാണെങ്കിൽ വന്നവഴിയെ തിരിച്ചുപോകുന്നതാണു്. അതിലൂടെ പോകാനവ ർ ധൈര്യപ്പെടുകയില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ജെ. മത്തായി: സക്കാർ കാറാണെങ്കിൽ പോകുമോ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. നായർ: സക്കാർവക കാറാണെങ്കിലും അവർ കൊണ്ടുപോകുമൊഎ ന്നു സംശയമാണു്. അതാണു ആ റോഡിന്റെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നില. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇപ്പോൾ കല്ലിട്ടിട്ടില്ലാത്ത സ്ഥലത്തുകൂടിയും കല്ലിട്ട അവിടത്തെ ഗതാഗതസൌകര്യം വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചുത രേണമെന്നാപേക്ഷിക്കാനാണു ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴുത്തശ്ശൻ: മിസ്റ്റർ പ്രസിഡണ്ടു്, ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട നെ ന്മാറ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിലെ മെമ്പറും ഞാനും ഇടക്കിടക്കു് തമ്മിൽ കാണാറുണ്ടു്. അ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ങ്ങിനെ ഒരു ദിവസം ഞങ്ങൾ തമ്മിൽ കണ്ടപ്പോൾ ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരുപക്ഷേപം അദ്ദേഹം അ യച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു് എന്നോടു പറഞ്ഞതുകൊണ്ടാണു് ഞാൻ ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഒരു ഉപക്ഷേപം അ യക്കാതിരുന്നതു്. അദ്ദേഹം എന്റെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിൽ കയ്യേറ്റം ചെയ്തതിൽ എ നിക്കു ആക്ഷേപമുണ്ടു്. എന്നിരുന്നാലും അദ്ദേഹം എനിക്കുവേണ്ടി ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരുപക്ഷേ പം അയച്ചതിൽ ഞാൻ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു നന്ദിപറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളുന്നു. അദ്ദേഹം ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ട മാതിരി ഗതാഗത സൌകര്യത്തിനു് ആ റോഡു ഉപയുക്തമാക്കുവാൻ ഏതെങ്കിലും കാരണവ ശാൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു സൌകര്യമില്ലെങ്കിൽ, ഇപ്പോൾ കൊച്ചി രാജ്യത്തിൽ നമുക്കാവശ്യമു ള്ളേടത്തോളം നെല്ലു് ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു് ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങൾ ധാരാളം ഉണ്ടാക്കണമെന്നു ള്ള പദ്ധതി ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് അംഗീകരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടും, ആ വഴിക്കുള്ള ബസ്സു് സർവ്വീസും മറ്റു തരത്തിലുള്ള ഗതാഗതങ്ങൾ നിർത്തൽചെയ്യും എട്ടുനാഴികനീളവും 20 അടി വീതിയുമുള്ള ഈ റോഡു് എനിക്കു കൃഷി ചെയ്യുവാൻ വിട്ടുതന്നാൽമതി. ഞാൻ അവിടെ ഞാറു നട്ടു് നല്ല പോലെ കൃഷിചെയ്തുകൊള്ളാം. കൃഷി ചെയ്യുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഒന്നാംക്ലാസ്സു നെല്ലു് അവിടെ നിന്നുകിട്ടും. കൃഷിചെയ്യുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി അതു പാകമായിട്ടാണു് അതിന്റെ കിടപ്പു്. ദയവുചെയ്തു അതിനു ഒരു അനുവാദം തരണമെന്നാണു് എന്റെ അപേക്ഷ. ആ റോഡു വടക്കാഴിക നീളമുള്ള ഒന്നാണു്. തൃശ്ശിവപേരൂർ കുന്നംകുളം റോഡും, തൃശ്ശിവപേരൂർ പൊർക്കുന്നൂർ റോഡും തമ്മിൽ കൂട്ടിമുട്ടിക്കുന്ന ഒരു റോഡാണു് ഇതു്. ഈ റോഡിന്റെ ഇരുഭാഗങ്ങളിലും ധാരാളം വൃക്ഷങ്ങൾവെച്ചു് പിടിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ആ വൃക്ഷങ്ങൾ കുടപോലെ വിടർന്നു, പടർന്നുപിടിച്ചു് നില്ക്കുന്ന കാഴ്ച വളരെ മനോഹരമായിട്ടുള്ള ഒന്നാണു്. പക്ഷെ, താഴോട്ടു് നോക്കിക്കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ കുണ്ടും, കുഴിയും, ചേറും, ചളിയും നിറഞ്ഞു് നടക്കുവാൻപോലും കഴിയാത്ത വിധം വളരെ ദുസ്സഹമായിട്ടുള്ള ഒന്നാണു്. മുൻപറഞ്ഞ തരത്തിൽ കൃഷിക്കു വിട്ടുതരാൻ സമ്മതമില്ലെങ്കിൽ മേൽവിവരിച്ചു കേടുകൂടാതീർത്തു റോഡു് റോഡിന്റെ ഉപയോഗത്തിനു പറ്റിയതാക്കണം.

പിന്നെ ഈ ടങ്കു റോഡിൽകൂടി നടക്കുന്ന അടക്ക ചന്തയിലേക്കു ധാരാളം ഭാരവണ്ടികൾ പോകേണ്ടതായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തുമാത്രം വളരെകാലം കുത്തകയായിട്ടു വെച്ചിരുന്ന അടക്കചന്ത ജനങ്ങളുടെപ്രക്ഷോഭണത്തിന്റെ ഫലമായി മൂന്നു സ്ഥലത്തായി ഇപ്പോൾ നടത്തിവരുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഈ റോഡിന്റെ മദ്ധ്യത്തിൽ സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുന്ന വേലൂർ അടക്കചന്ത വളരെപ്രാധാന്യമുള്ള ഒന്നാണു്. വേലൂർ ചന്തയിൽപോയിട്ടുവേണം മറ്റു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലേക്കു അടക്കയും മറ്റും കൊണ്ടുപോകുവാൻ. കൊച്ചി രാജ്യത്തിലെ അടക്ക മുതലായ സാധനങ്ങൾ അന്യരാജ്യങ്ങളിലേക്കയക്കുവാൻ ഏറ്റവും ആവശ്യമായ ഒരു റോഡു് നൽകുന്നി ചെയ്യുവാൻ വിട്ടുതരാതെ മേല്പറഞ്ഞ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കു് ഉപയോഗപ്രദമാക്കിതീർത്താൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഇനി അധികമൊന്നും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടു് ആവശ്യമുണ്ടെന്നു് തോന്നുന്നില്ല.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)* : Velur Road is one which commands a very heavy traffic except during this monsoon because of the arecanut trade. It is not maintained with any durable metal like granite. Therefore during the monsoon period it used to be, not only this year, in a fairly unsatisfactory condition. But it is a fairly good wide road if there is not much rain. This year the rain was intense and the road broke down. The suggestion of the member to use granite metal will receive due consideration.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. നായർ: ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ അനുകൂലമായ അഭിപ്രായഗതിയനുസരിച്ചു ഈ സഭയുടെ അനുവാദത്തോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം പിൻവലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No 31

Changing the name of M. L. C. Quarters

Mr. C. K. S. Moni *(Nominated)*: *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,897 for Establishment Execution Staff by Re. 1. (The necessity for changing the name of the M. L. C. Quarters to any other name).*

സർ, എം. എൽ. സി. ക്വാട്ടേഴ്സിന്റെ പേരു മാറ്റേണമെന്നുള്ളതാണു് എന്റെ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപംകൊണ്ടു ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടതു്. ആ പേരിനുള്ള പ്രാധാന്യംകൊണ്ടല്ല ഞാനിതു പറയുന്നതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സു് പണിക്കർ: എം. എൽ. സി. ക്വാട്ടേഴ്സ് എന്നു അതിനു പേരില്ല.

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മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. എസ്സ് മണി: ബില്ലിൽ എം. എൽ. സി. കപാട്ടേഴ്സ് എന്ന എഴുതിവരുന്നുണ്ട്. അതിനു രാമമോഹൻ പാലസ്സുപോലെയുള്ള പേരു ഇടണമെന്നല്ല ഞാൻ ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നതു്. എം. എൽ. സി. കപാട്ടേഴ്സ് എന്നു കൊച്ചി രാജ്യത്തിൽ ആരെങ്കിലും കേട്ടാൽ വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു് അതു കേമമായ ഒരു കെട്ടിടമാണെന്നാണു്. എന്നാൽ അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഒരു നിലയല്ല ആ കെട്ടിടത്തിനുള്ളതു്, ആ കെട്ടിടം യുക്കാലിപിറ്റസ് വില്ലുവാൻ വരുന്ന ഏജണ്ടുമാക്കൊ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ യാത്രക്കുവരുന്ന ആരെക്കെങ്കിലുമൊ താമസിക്കുവാൻ ഉപയോഗിക്കാമെന്ന നിലയിലാണു് കിടക്കുന്നതു്. ആ കെട്ടിടത്തിൽ ആകപ്പാടെ ന്ന മുറികളുണ്ടു്. ആ മുറികളിലാണു എം. എൽ. സി. മാർ താമസിക്കുന്നതു്. ഒരു മുറിയിൽ ആറും ഏഴും ചിലപ്പോൾ പതിനാറും ആളുകൾവീതം ഇപ്പോൾ താമസിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അടുത്ത ദിവസം അവിടെ മൂന്നു കട്ടിലുകൾകൂടി കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ആ മൂന്നു കട്ടിലുകൾ അവിടെ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടതു ഇപ്പോൾ കൂടുതൽ അസൌകര്യമായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ആളുകൾക്കു താമസിക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ട സ്ഥലം അവിടെയില്ല. പിന്നെ അതിൽ കുറെ ഫർണീച്ചേഴ്സ് കിടക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ആ കസേരയിൽ ഇരുന്നാൽ ആണി തുളഞ്ഞുകയറും. ഞാനിന്നു അതിൽനിന്നു ഒരു കസേര കൊണ്ടുപോകട്ടെ എന്നു അവിടത്തെ വാച്ചുമാനോടു ചോദിച്ചു. അതിനു യാതൊരു സമ്മതവുമുണ്ടായില്ല. അതിവിടെ കൊണ്ടുവന്നു കാണിക്കാമല്ലൊ എന്നു വിചാരിച്ചാണു് ഞാൻ ചോദിച്ചതു്. അതിന്റെ ശോചനീയാവസ്ഥ ആരും സമ്മതിക്കുന്ന ഒന്നാണു്.

എം. എൽ. സി. കപാട്ടേഴ്സിനു ഒരു കെട്ടിടം പണിയുവാൻ ഒരാലോചനയുണ്ടായിരുന്നുവെങ്കിലും തല്ക്കാലം ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു അതു വേണ്ടെന്നുവെക്കുകയാണുചെയ്തതു്. ഒന്നുകിൽ സൌകര്യമായവിധത്തിൽ ഒരു കെട്ടിടം ഉണ്ടാക്കിതരിക. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഇതുപോലെ അടുത്തടുത്തു രണ്ടു കെട്ടിടമെടുത്തുതരിക. ഇതിലേതെങ്കിലുമൊന്നു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടുചെയ്താൽ തരക്കേടില്ല. ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു അതു വാടകക്കു എടുത്തിരിക്കയാണു്. ഐ ജി കു. യൊമറൊ അതിനു വാടക കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. വൃ കു. വീതം ഞങ്ങൾ അതിനു ഇപ്പോൾ വാടക കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഈ വിവരം ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനെ അറിയിക്കുന്നതിനാണു ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം കൊണ്ടുവന്നിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ അംഗീകരണത്തിനായി ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം അവതരിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസഫ് പെട്ട: പേരു മാറണമെന്നുള്ള നിലയിലല്ല ഇതിനെ ആലോചിക്കേണ്ടതു്. ഇപ്പോൾ ഉള്ളതിലും കൂടുതൽ സൌകര്യം ചെയ്യുതരണമെന്നാ നിലയിലെ ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കാൻ പാടുള്ളൂ.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: എം. എൽ. സി. കപാട്ടേഴ്സിനെപ്പറ്റി ഒരു റസല്യൂഷൻ ഇവിടെ പാസായിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അതെങ്ങിനെയിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നു അറിഞ്ഞാൽ കൊള്ളാം.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Mr. President, The object to be served by the cut motion as explained by the Hon'ble friend the Deputy Leader is that the M. L. C's quarters, the place to which the Hon'ble Membeers of this House who have not their own residences here are forced to resort when they are here to do their public duty be made more befitting the position of such public workers. To understand its real condition any amount of description will not be sufficient. To know it you have to see it, and so the authorities, any one of them with a sense of resposibility vested in him may be pleased to come and have a look at it. I used not to live there because of the very many wants felt there.

A voice.—Where are you put up,

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: To satisfy the Hon'ble members inquisitiveness I submit that I used to live in the Hotel terminus—Not the old Hotel terminus but the new Hotel terminus, Failing to get a room there this time to live with my friend who is sitting in front of me I had to come to this pleace. It is a handemonium. I don't find a better word to describe it. Of course some of the inmates are responsible for a portion of inconveniences felt there. Look at the fun of it? Two beds in the area like the enclosure occupied by the Hon'ble President. Two beds table a few chairs and one or two boxes brought by these members with them. As may as 20 members living there. Will it not be a pandemonium. Virtually, it is so. Therefore insult us not by forcing us to go there. That is a prayer.

Then regarding furniture, Sir, I belong to that school which recognises things done and I do that. I am not going to blame the Government. I am blaming the members of this House, who occupy that building. There was once an occasion, sir, when the house of Justice Verghese was used by us, we requested the Chief Engineer to send us some cots. That evening

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like a caterer he in person came there followed by the number of cots that we required Another instance took place in the new building, when it was first rented. It was pointed out to him that there were no chairs, in the evening comes the Assistant Engineer of this Division with a dozen or more of new chairs. Those chairs, during these five years have not been repaired or replaced. Whose fault is it?? It is ours. We do not complain, sir, for any unhappy situation that existed or exists to-day because the blame is mostly ours. Now through this cut motion we place our difficulties before you. We are sure that you will grant our request. It is not to change the furniture alone, because what is wanted is more space. What is wanted is nearness to this House. the simple reason that Hon'ble Members are excepted to do their duty properly. That means that we have to be having easy access to the library and all that is concerned with this House whenever we want. Therefore I am making a constructive suggestion and it was once before suggested also. There is a building close by owned by the Government, the building formerly used as the Comptroller's office and subsequently used as the Minister's House and now used as the Excise Commissioner's office, I cannot suggest a better place to house the M.L.Cs. I am making the appeals in the name of those who want to do proper work, those who want to discharge the duties for discharging which they are sent here. Give them convenience. Let willing workers do the work and more than that, although not the subject matter of this cut give them the necessary living wages at least.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* When one sees the wonderful arrangements in the M. L. C's quarters one feels that the intention is to punish the M. L. Cs. That seems to be the only justification. They are sending all sorts of resolutions and inconvenient questions. The fellows must be punished. If that be the intention, I strongly oppose the motion. Because Government must fulfil its intention of punishing Mr. Moni and Mr. Ezhuthassan. If it is the intention to house these M. L. C. animals properly give them a proper pen where they could live. Give them a little rest and convenience to enable them to do their work here, without running away. I think it is high time that Government wakes up. The promise is that the war should be over for putting up a building. I think the promise is made to make M. L. Cs war-minded. They are already war-minded. 4 members are doing national war front work. If more is required more will come. I will now describe our sufferings. So far as Ernakulam is concerned rooms are not available even in third class hotels. Further is there not an advantage in all M. L. Cs living together? That itself would be a matter for the consideration of the Government. One is forced willy nilly to go to the quarters. You pass the gate without a gate and then go into a compound full of deep sand. If a man goes in shoes the shoes will sink to the rim. If one goes in a rickshaw he will find the wheels going down. We then enter a wonderful bangalow and we go upstairs and see a compartment. When I consider the number of State guests we entertain in a grand scale our mouths water. There are two closets and both these closets are in the northern end. The rooms have no common corridor. Everybody has to pass through all the other rooms. Sometimes we find the room occupied by a very pertinacious postal superintendent or an unwashed sepoy. If we happen to be in the northern room we can see all types of humanity, washed and unwashed, good, bad, and indifferent men passing through your room. There is an officer who has however to give exemption, and the giving of exemptions is very vigorously done. The result of it is that on 4th January, poor Mathai who was living in one of the rooms, was ordered to quit. The reason was that a Recruiting party was coming. After virgorous protest an order came asking him to go downstairs to give room to a European officer who, they said, was coming. Such a distinction never existed in the Cochin State even under the Presidency of an European officer.

Deputy President: The Hon'ble Member had exceeded the time limit.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Then I will conclude.

If you want to punish the M. L. Cs you may continue this. If you want to house the M. L. Cs, change the system.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Sir, This is a matter which concerns the dignity of the House. Although we are getting from the Planting Member all kinds of statements I think we are gentlemen and we ought to be treated as gentlemen. I should certainly say that ever since this Council started, from the very beginning of this Council this question has been mooted for the last 18 years that the members should have all conveniences provided for them by the Government for their convenient stay at Ernakulam, when the Council meets. Some suggestion was made that quarters and site behind this council may be acquired and a decent building put up. It was a nice suggestion too, because they will be near the place of their work and I do not know why the Government and the P. W. D. have never thought of this suggestion, all these

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years ? Why no allotment has been made for the last 17 years ? Why has not the Government come forward ? Of course, I can understand that they do not wish to feel the force of this House and they do not think that this House has got any force. The Members' Salary Bill was passed here. Still it is pending. It has neither been assented to nor dissented from, although there is a provision in the Act itself to the effect that if it is assented to or dissented from, the fact must be gazetted. How many years have passed ? How many more years are to pass regarding this ? These are serious questions, and unfortunately we are so split up in camps that we could not present a united front as the days gone by. If there was a united front here, Government would have moved long ago. The Hon'ble Secretary who is to be the spokesman is not here to listen to this, although the Joint Secretary is there. I do not know what the Joint Secretary is going to join, whether he is going to join issue with us, or say that the Government will seriously consider the matter immediately. There is no use of saying we have no money. You are spending a lot of money for A. R. P. works. All those stones will be there for these purposes We are not afraid of anything here. How many rupees is required ? 20,000 rupees or Rs. 30,000 could have been spent. Throw open one wing of the Ram Mohan Palace to the Members of the Council and provide two or three motor cars. When guests are coming here from outside how do you provide accommodation, cars, houses, food and drinks ? Are not people coming here to do public work in the interests of our country, in the interests of our people entitled to the same treatment ? You give us Rs. 4½ which is not enough for three meals in these days. You have never thought of these things.

Deputy President : Mr. Salem, your time is up.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: I hope the Government will seriously consider the matter of giving the members the allowance that they require and the conveniences they require and a house. If you have not provided any amount in the budget bring a supplementary demand. This year you have a surplus of 16 and odd lakhs of rupees.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Sir, This House has been fighting and fighting for its rights. Formerly, before I entered into the Council, the third council, it was a shame to place their grievances before the Council. But I did not care. I introduced a bill for payment of salary to the Members. The Members of Parliament had fought for it and succeded. Here we passed a bill by a majority. I think 87 per cent of the members voted in favour of the Bill. We know nothing about it. Here the complaint is that the members of the legislature have no house to reside. I say it was very unwise on the part of the Government to give occasion for this complaint. There was a similar motion about two years ago about this and it was very seriously brought to the notice of the Government. Today we are in the same boat again. I think it is an unwise thing. Why can't you give them convenience. At least one room for a member for privacy. Is it a boarding house. Is it a Sathram ? One should have sufficient space for calm thinking and sleeping comfortably. Is it not a natural right. Such a right is denied to the members I am surprised to hear. I don't use the M. L. C. quarters but I fully agree with all the grievances set forth and which should be rectified at once. Sir, I suggest for bachelors there will be single rooms and for married men there will be double rooms. *(Laughter).*

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: A healthy suggestion.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: The budget sessions will last for 11 days. How can they leave their wives for such a long period. *(Laughter, loud and continued).*

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Our Hon'ble friend is very practical.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Therefore, I would suggest that there should be a palatial bungalow with so many rooms, single as well as double and a common hall for discussion.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Sir, The various inconveniences pointed out by the Hon'ble Members will be borne in mind and all possible facilities made available to them before they come for the next session.

With regard to the construction of a new building, it is not an issue raised in the cut motion. However since this has been now brought to the notice of the Government, certainly they will have no objection to consider the possibility of constructing a new building. But at the same time I would like to bring to the notice of the House that in the matter of taking up new constructions, Government are at present always guided by the "Inescapability" criterion.

With regard to Mr. Mathai's allegation that when certain Recruiting Officers came to occupy the M. L. C. quarters he was asked to go downstairs, I would like to explain the facts. At the time the Recruiting party arrived unfortunately the T. B. was full and we had naturally to find out accommodation for them elsewhere. No other building was available and therefore they had to be accommodated in the M. L. C. quarters. At that time it was not known that Mr. Mathai

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was occupying a room there. Instructions were issued to get the rooms vacated. Unfortunately the instructions were carried too far and Mr. Mathai was also asked to vacate. As soon as that information reached the Government they took the earliest opportunity to see that Mr. Mathai was left undisturbed. We certainly regret the inconvenience was caused to the Hon'ble Member.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Yes. That was so.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. എസ്സ്". മണി: ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ അംഗീകരണത്തിനായി ഞാനിതു പ്രസ്സു ചെയ്തതു.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The cut motion is only for a change in the name.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴുത്തശ്ശൻ: അതു ഞങ്ങളുടെ ധർമ്മബുദ്ധികൊണ്ടു പറഞ്ഞതാണു". കുതിരലായം എന്നാക്കണമെന്നു പറയാമായിരുന്നു. അതു പറഞ്ഞില്ലെന്നേയുള്ളു. ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനെക്കൊണ്ടു കഴിയുന്നതും ഇതിൽ പ്രവൃത്തിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനാണു" ഇതിവിടെ പ്രസ്സു" ചെയ്തതു".

Deputy President: We will have to interpret the issue in the light of the discussion.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* In the light of the reply given by the Government is it necessary to press it?

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* I think it is for us to decide and not for the Hon'ble Member for Education.

Motion put and carried

CUT MOTION No. 32

A canal through Nedungad

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,41,540 for Irrigation by Rs. 2(To discuss the desirability of cutting a short canal through Nedungad in continuation of the Punchayil Canal to facilitate transport and drainage from Puthenpadam fields in Nayarambalam Village)* Sir, Bernard Shaw has said that modern governments cannot finish one work without creating ten works thereby. Our Government constructed a bridge after a quarter of a century's agitation in Nayarambalam Village. They bunded up three quarters of the width of canal there and put up a bridge. The result was it completely obstructed the drainage and the flow of water. Afterwards they tried to mend the bridge as well as the bund. After repeated attempts they cut open one side of the bund and put up an additional supplementary bridge. Even now the obstruction remains. The only way to get out of the difficuly is to cut open a channel through Nedungad. The width of the island itself is very small and the cost will not be very much because the landholders will be ready to remove the sand on their own accord without much expenses on the part of the Government. I wanted to bring to the notcice of the Government that this small work should be taken up immediately.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The length of the proposed canal will be about 5 furlongs and the proposed canal will certainly meet the drainage of the locality. But the question requires a little more invetigation becaue the notice of the cut motion reached us only very late. The matter will be looked into.

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal):* On the assurance given by the Hon'ble Member for Engineering I beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 33

Drainage of Thottara puncha

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,897 for Civil Engineering —Subordinate Executive Staff by Re. 1. [The Drainage of the Thottara Puncha Nilams, Edakkaltuvayal Village]* Sir, this is a matter as old as myself in this Council. It is for the drainage of the Thottara puncha. What is worthy of attention is that a sum of Rs. 40,000 was provided last year. I want to know why the work was not taken even though there is a provision.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Sir, the draining of the Thottar pucha for changing the cultivation from puncha to Mundakan was investigated last year but it was latter suggested that the Thottara puncha lands are definitely unsuited for mundakan cultivation, that these lands are unfertile and cannot stand to crops. That is the expert agricultural opinion about it. So it was thought that a work of that nature there will not not be beneficial. In place

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it was suggested that with the co-operation of the Travancore Government it might be possible to prevent the ingress of salt water through the Pazhoor puzha and the question may be investigated on those lines. I have been in communication with the Chief Engineer of Travancore. Details have been worked out and I am awaiting his reply.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* You are going to put up a bund where ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer);* At Poothotta at the mouth of the Pazoor Puzha. The Pazoor Puzha passes through Thottara puncha and flows itself into the backwater at Poothotta. If at that place a bund is put up then salt water will not enter Pazoor Puzha.

Mr. V. J. Mathai (*Planters*) : It is not a question of salt water. Sir, I want to disabuse the mind of the Chief Engineer. No salt water enters there. It is surrounded on all sides by hills. That is the position. What we demand is a canal on the western side. From the Pazhoor puzha the water comes in there during the time of flood and we have got a depth of 20 feet of water during the rainy season. What is wanted is a sort of drainage operation.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer);* The Hon'ble Member has not understood the position. The Thottara puncha lands are cultivated as puncha nilams during the dry season. Agricultural opinion is that these lands are not suitable for mundakan cultivation. Then the next question arose what should be done there. The thing to be done was to stabilise the puncha cultivation and for that the most important thing was to prevent the ingress of salt water. Pazhoor puzha at the side of Thottara Puncha becomes saltish early in Dhanu. No water could be turned from the Pazhur puzha for irrigation of Thottara puncha lands. In order to prevent that the proposal was to bund up the Pazhoor puncha at the mouth of the backwaters so that salt water may not enter there. In that case there will be sufficient water in the river itself.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Sir, I cannot quarrel with experts. I only wanted to bring the view of the ryots to the notice of the Government.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* A canal to drain the water from the puncha lands will be useful only in case you are going to cultivate mundakan.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* The idea is to raise two crops. It is roughly 700 acres in area. That will be about 6,000 parahs of paddy field. One expert has declared it to be unfit for mundakan crop. I only want to draw the attention of the government to the desirability of taking up this work after getting higher opinion on the matter.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We will look into it.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 34

The opening of the Madathakat Chira

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,897 for Civil Engineering —Subordinate Executive Staff by Re. 1. (The opening of the* മടത്തക്കാട്ട് ചാല *in Edakkattuvayal Village).* Sir, This matter will be chiefly for the Hon'ble Minister. There is a chira there which really gives water to a lot of paddy fields. It is in Ezhupuram in the Edakkattuvayal village. I suppose this is a work which the Hon'ble Minister could easily bring under irrigation. The amount involved will not exceed Rs. 400 or Rs. 500. I hope the Chief Engineer or the Hon'ble Minister will see that the work is taken up as early as possible to save at least the next crop. During the dry season we have no water.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* It was not so far brought to my notice. I will look into it.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 35

Irrigation section of Public Works Department to be administered by the Member in charge of Agriculture

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri) :* Mr. President, this is a very important subject that I want to place for the consideration of this Hon'ble House as also the Government. The cut motion reads thus.— "*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,260 for Chief Engineer's establishment by Re. 1.* The object of the motion is '*to urge the Government that irrigation section under Public Works Department be transferred to be administered by the Member in charge*

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of Agriculture". The cut motion speaks for itself. But that is not sufficient. I feel I have to speak out. This is a subject which requires the very serious consideration of the House for the simple reason that in the light of the observations made by the Hon'ble Diwan President in the opening speech at pages 18 and 19 what is wanted through this cut has necessarily to be granted by the Government. It is a self-evident proposition. The observations of the Diwan are.— "Closely connected with increased food production is the question of irrigation. The Government believe that a forward policy in irrigation is essential at this time and have acted accordingly. That progress in major irrigation has not been rapid is due to necessity for careful scientific investigation of important irrigation schemes to ensure that money is wisely spent and the best use made of the water available". These statements have been made by no less a person than the Chief Executive Head of the Government of Cochin. Therefore I feel, Sir, my case is strengthened by those observations. Yet another thing to which I want to draw the attention of the House is that quite correctly the food department has been transferred to the Hon'ble Minister who is in charge of Agriculture. Such a Government.....

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda);* Only the Hill paddy scheme has been transferred to the Hon'ble Minister.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : I am thankful to the Hon'ble Member for having corrected me. Now, the Government has been pleased, Sir, to transfer the Hill Paddy Scheme to be administered by the Hon'ble Minister who is in charge of Agriculture. From that it follows that whatever is necessary for making agriculture workable and effectively workable must go into the hands of the Hon'ble Minister who is in charge of agriculture. That is the proposition, and the irrigation system of the Public Works Department caters to this head. You will be pleased to find in the Budget for the next year that a sum of 4,44,065 has been provided for major irrigation works and as many as 47 items, that is item Nos. 228 to 275, in appendix F of the Budget, are items of major irrigation works. That is the nature of the major irrigation scheme of our Government and such works used to be provided in years before also. Now the schemes which are contemplated in the address of the Diwan at page 18 will begin to be worked. The investigation of the works will be finished in due course. These major schemes will of course take some time and before that the existing ones may be transferred to the Minister in charge of agriculture so that if any training in such work is necessary he may have such training also before the other major works are fully investigated. During the interim period he may have sufficient training also. That is by the time you reach important works adumberated by the Diwan at pages 18 and 19 of his speech, which I am sure will bear fruit ere long, the Hon'ble Minister may have sufficient training, not that he requires much training. If all of a sudden such big things are handed over to him there may come some difficulties. At least to get over that and to be logical the Government may be pleased to transfer into the hands of the Minister who is in charge of Agriculture such major irrigation works. Yet another reason why I urge this before the Government is that the attention of the Hon'ble Member for Engineering will be required for such useful purposes as the Peringolkothu Hydro Electric scheme with all its possibilities for the industrialisation of the whole State wherein alone lies the prosperity of Cochin more than for the distribution of water under the Chalakkudi irrigation scheme, the construction of a canal here and the repair of a Thodu there. These things may be left over to be done by the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Agriculture reserving the time of the Chief Engineer for major things like whatever is necessary for the industrialisation of the State. Viewed from that point also this transfer is necessary. Yet again there is absolutely no difficulty for this transfer.....

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)* : Under General Administration this subject came up under cut motion No. 17 and then on the Statement made by the Hon'ble President all the members agreed that that and similar motions need not be put to vote.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : May I make a correction Sir.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)* : The President said that all the three of them may be put together and on the assurance of the Hon'ble President everybody in the House agreed that these motions need not be moved. Moreover it would be more appropriate if it comes under General Administration. Now we are considering the details of the Public Works Budget. After all this, now to bring another cut motion on the very same subject and that while considering the details of the P. W. D. Budget looks rather.....

Deputy President : What is your difficulty ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)* : I want to know whether it is in order. All these things were withdrawn.

Deputy President : If they have gone back upon their attitude, nothing can prevent them.

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Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: The President's statement and what transpired then may kindly be looked into.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: What took place is this. In view of the announcement transferring the hill paddy scheme unto the Minister and in view of the fact that the Governnment is sympathetically considering the matter, it was agreed that we need not discuss these matters. It was a wish expressed by the President and we agreed to it. We said nothing out of deference. I do not think there is any point of order. We have our right of discussion.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: It is a question of granting further constitutional reforms, Sir.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: The position explained by the Hon'ble Secretary to Government is not what actually took place. With due deference to the royal source from which this interference has come, I have to submit, Sir, that it pains me to note that such an argument has come from a source from which it was least expected. For the information of the Hon'ble President and this Hon'ble House I may say that a similar motion was there in the General Administration Demand. It was ruled out and I pointed out then and there that it should more properly come under P.W.D. wherein a specific cut had been tabled by me. That is the present cut motion under discussion.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: I only want to bring to the notice of the Chair the inconsistency in discussing this motion.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: It was agreed that all that pertains to further constitutional reforms may in the light of the pronouncement of the Diwan President be passed over.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Exactly the same thing has been tabled here.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: It was not withdrawn.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: In the sense that the members agreed that they will not be moved.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: This will not come under that. This is a specific question.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Once the House having decided that a cut motion like this need not be moved, now it is again being moved. That is the exact position.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: There was no such omni-pause decision.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: There was an understanding and a decision like that. Having once decided that way, three days hence it is again being brought up under another head.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: There is the ticklishness, Sir.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: There was no such decision.

Deputy President: There was no formal decision. There was only an understanding. It is left to the members. They can still move that. If they abide by the understanding they need not move. They are at perfect liberty.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: They are at perfect liberty. But I only wanted to point out the inconsistency.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: We shall not go into the wide question of responsible Government.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: There was no decision that this question will not be considered. There was an observation from the Hon'ble President that in the light of the announcement made by the Diwan Peishkar, questions regarding further constitutional reforms may not be moved and we agreed to it.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Quite right.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: And without violating that understanding, Sir, I can move this.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: That is rather doubtful.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Now to follow the trend of my argument, Sir, I was on the 3rd point, that is, there is not even the difficulty of any change or amendment of the Constitution Act. Transfer of more departments to the Hon'ble Minister is allowed by the Act and is acted up to by the Government. That is more departments what was provided in the Act as it stood at its inception have already been transferred to the Minister and we are thankful to the Government for that. Our prayer now, Sir, is that this too

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may be transferred. The fact that the Hon'ble Minister now functioning is in charge of the agricultural department, logically leads us to ask the Government you Sir, to transfer the major irrigation section of the Public Works Department to the Hon'ble Minister. That is the point of the cut. The point may be understood not only by the Government but by the whole house in the light. This in fact will amount to increasing the number of departments or portions of departments transferred to the Hon'ble Minister to be worked by him. As far as that is concerned every section of the House, I believe will be agreed and united. Therefore I will put it in this fashion Sir. The whole non-official section of the House which is prepared to work diarchy to its successful end and logical sequence demand of the Government of Cochin that consistently with their policy already exhibited in transferring the Hill Paddy Scheme to the Hon'ble Minister, the major irrigation section of the Public Works Department may also be transferred to the Hon'ble Minister. It may also be understood as a united request placed before the Government for its sympathetic and quick consideration to be followed by very quick action. That is the spirit in which I move this cut motion.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Sir, agriculture and irrigation must go together. Irrigation brings water to fields on which agriculture is carried on. If agriculture is given to the Hon'ble Minister and the water is taken away from the Minister what will happen? Who knows that the reserved half and the transferred half won't quarrel one day. If water is not allowed to be given to the Minister what will happen? The lands will dry up. There will be no water, no food, no paddy, no effective cultivation and everything will end in a confusion. After all what is going to happen? We are not asking the P. W. D. to be entirely transferred to the Minister. We only ask that water necessary for agriculture must be under the control of the person who controls the agricultural operations in the State. If you could suo moto transfer 8 lakhs worth of paddy cultivation to the Minister, this House requests you to transfer a little more regarding irrigation so that the Minister may be responsible to the people. Then the people will have some more control over irrigation projects.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural)*: What all agricultural operations are now carried on by the Minister?

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Suppose in Chittur you want water. You want a responsible man to give water. Now you are going to develop the Kambalathara Eri in Chittur. All this water should be under proper control. We have been suffering in Cochin on account of irrigation questions not being properly attended to with proper responsibility. How many questions have been answered in this Council regarding this? Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar has been putting a lot of questions on this subject. The wishes of this House have not been carried out because it is given to the irremovable and irresponsible half. Suppose it is the responsible half. Then the responsible Minister would not have been in his place. Therefore I think it is a salutary proposition deserving support from all sections of the House.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Sir, I may be excused in opposing this motion. I have more than once explained my position with regard to these piecemeal reforms. There are three reasons for opposing this motion. The first is on humanitarian grounds. The Hon'ble Minister is virtually a human being, particularly a lean gentleman and he will not be able to tackle all these departments.

A voice—Ministers may change.

If you want any improvement in the working of this Department the Minister should be able to concentrate his attention upon it.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* There is no reflection upon the working of the department by the Chief Engineer. The request is that it may be transferred to the Minister to be worked more effectively.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Then why should it be transferred to the Minister. I am against these piecemeal reforms. Either we shall go to our fourth Council position, that is no Minister. We shall go to our pre war position. By appointment of this Minister how much difficulty has been created, how much disunion has been created among the non-official members.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: It is due to the peculiar working of the human mind.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Formerly our interests were identical. There was a united front. All the non-official members were presenting a united front. But now a split has been created. Diarchy is the most archaic system of administration in the world, antideluvion method. In these days who will speak of diarchy. My friend is committing himself to the perpetuation of diarchy.

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Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Certainly not.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: What is the meaning of your saying "certainly not" from that elevated seat.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: This is more elevated than the beds of the Chalakkudi river.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: The Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri has very progressive views and in constitutional matters his views are archaic, anti-deluvion and reactionary. We must have either full responsible Government or no Government at all. (A voice—no Government). Yes. This partial responsibility and partial irresponsibility is hopeless. Either we must have a Diwan with all the administration in his hands or we must have a council of Ministers responsible to the legislature and to the people at large. What is the meaning of transferring one department ? I will never be a party to it and I am only surprised that my friend from Vadakkancheri who is holding such high traditions and progressive views should move such a motion.

Further war is going to be over very soon and I am sure the allies will be victorious. The Japanese will be thrown to the dogs and Tojo's days are numbered. Then we will have a constitution fully independent. Why cannot our position be equivalent to the position of a Province in British India. In the Madras Province there is a Governor and a Council of Ministers. Here also we may have a Council of Ministers and the Maharaja. Our Maharaja will be equal to the position of a Governor in British India. Why can't we have such a constitution. People of Cochin are so reasonable minded and so law abiding that there will be no calamity. The people of Cochin are very conservative.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I question that.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: The moving of this motion shows that you are conservative. You want to perpetuate diarchy. This morning my friend was moving a measure in which he wanted rigorous comandeering and equitable distribution. I was not here when the main speech was delivered. But I want the measure to be less rigorous and more equitable. This is blowing hot and cold in the same breath. Either blow hot or blow cold. I strongly oppose this motion.

Mr. M. Nanu Menon *(Ernakulam)*: Sir, I oppose this motion. There is already one Minister and he is overworked and now if this department is transferred today tomorrow there will come a request for the transfer of the high school department to the Minister and the day after the request will be to transfer rural hospitals to the Minister. If these things are to go on one Minister will not be sufficient (A voice—have another). But that is not the proposition here. I think that this may be dropped for the present.

Deputy President: I think we must consider this question from another aspect. By transferring this department, it is not transferred from the Chief Engineer. It is only a transfer from the control of the Diwan to that of the Hon'ble Minister. If the Diwan can administer all the Departments, then why not the Minister. The Chief Engineer will be there and he will be doing the actual work.

Mr. M. Nanu Menon *(Ernakulam)*: There is only one Minister.

Deputy Psesident: A single Diwan was administering all the departments. The Minister will be helped by the civil servants who are there. I only want to make this position clear.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi)*: We want more Ministers.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: If all the Departments are transferred to one Minister what is the use of the other Ministers.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: Sir, I want to support the motion for two reasons. In the first place as the Hon'ble Deputy President has said, I have only to emphasise that point. The Minister or the Head of the Department has only to think and give the ideas. The actual execution will be done by others.

Mr. M. Nanu Menon *(Ernakulam)*: Then why this transfer.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: There will be party meetings here and the party can dictate terms to the Minister. In the other case you are not even consulted.

The second reason is this. There is an enterprising veteran member of this House who attains his objects thus. Please let us have road to that Kadavu. Then subsequently in another year he will say let us have a road on the other side of the Kadavu. The Chief Engineer will grant the requests. Immediately next year comes the request for a bridge. There is a road on either side of the Kadavu, we must have a bridge otherwise the road will be useless. So let the Minister be over-burdened. We will then ask for two Ministers.

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Mr. M. Nanu Menon *(Ernakulam):* I think the Hon'ble Member has followed that policy this time.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Even if the Minister is unable to bear the gravity of this Department let us pass it and if the Minister is unable to conduct it naturally he will resign.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Sir, I would just like to add a few words to the discussion. It should not be imagined for a moment that I am against the motion brought forward by the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri. But I must emphatically assert that things have come to such a pass that it is impossible to entrust many departments to one man. Now it has been suggested by somebody—I do not know who, because I was in the lobby—that if a Diwan could administer all the departments why not the Minister administer all the departments. It was because that the Diwan was absolutely inefficient in the sense that toomuch power was with him that he could not attend to things in detail that we were justified in asking for a Minister and the present Minister if I have been following his difficulties, must be conceded as has having too much work, first is administrative work and then the administration of the party. These things are practically impossible for any human being and since I regard the present Minister as a human being and not an unhuman machine I say this motion is absolutely out of place unless it is coupled with a request that there should be more Ministers. It should not for a moment be supposed that I am against the principle of this motion. I am for the transfer of more departments to a Minister but not to an already over-burdened and much harassed Minister.

Mr Joseph Petta *(Adur):* Even in spite of the elucidation given by the Hon'ble Deputy President the matter does not seem to have been clearly understood by some of the Hon'ble Members. Some Hon'ble Members here raised the question as to whether the prcsent Minister is equal to the task of administaring so many departments cast upon him. At the same time it was maintained here more than once that because it was thought too much for a Diwan to administer all the departments efficiently a portion of the work was transferred to the Minister. We want to make that division a little more even. Even now there are more departments on the shoulders of the Diwan than on those of the Minister. Again, it should be noted that even when the Minister is entrusted with the control of the irrigation section of the P. W.D., as the Hon'ble the Deputy President has explained, the Chief Engineer would be there in immediate and direct charge of all major irrigation works, and if any other Department is taken into the Ministerial portfolio the Departmental head would be there as now; and just as the Diwan is working the administration through the Departmental heads, the Minister also will be working. He may not be a technical expert in irrigation and in the construction of buildings. Even so, the Diwan is not a technical expert in such matters. We find in the British Indian Provinces, for instance, the P. W. D. may be in the charge of a Minister who may not be an expert; but under him there are the permanent civil servants, who are experts.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: Has anybody been disputing this proposition.

Mr. Joseph Petta *(Adur):* Again it was urged, as an argument against the proposed trnnsfer, that the Minister is after all a human being. But then, so too is the Diwan.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Does the Hon'ble Member want to convert the Minister into a Diwan.

Mr. Joseph Petta *(Adur):* There is no use in opposing this transfer by saying that the Minister is a human being. That is just like damning a man with kind words and killing him with cruel kindness.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: That is a pedagogofc argument.

Mr. Joseph ettah *(Adur):* The other was a muddled argument. A padagogic argument, which has clearness in it, is any day better than a muddled argument.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know the difference between minor and major irrigation.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaasha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* If by a certain irrigation system the land benefitted is below 200 acres it comes under minor irrigation. If it is more than 200 it comes under major irrigation system. That is the definition given, not only by this Government but by the Madras Government also.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know whether it is based on any actual measurement or calculation or approximate.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The area under every system has been properly estimated and determined and the acreage under each is calculated.

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Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: From the answer given by the Member for Engineering I m fortified in my argument that the line between the two seems to be very varrow and is always subject to overlapping either in favour or in prejudice of the other. With that in view I respectfully submit to this House that in the interests of the proper operations of agriculture itself it is always better to have the irrigation scheme completely, both major and minor, in one and the same party.....In as much as Government has been pleased to transfer the minor irrigation department as part and parcel of the Panchayat Department, I would submit that it is most useful to have the entire irrigation transferred to the Minister under his management. I do not propose to say anything upon the responsible Government or upon the advisability of having more Ministers or the question of over-burdening the Minister or his breaking down. But I am on the practical proposition that the two irrigation systems are so interminably connected and so inextricably necessary for the proper work of agriculture they may be transferred to the same authority and on this question (as agriculture is part and parcel of irrigation to the Minister.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: On a point of information, is the margin between Public Health and Medicine narrower than agriculture and irrigation. Therefore medicine also should be transferred.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്°. പണിക്കർ: ഒരു പ്ലോട്ട് ഫ്ലവ 0 ഏക്കറുള്ള ഒരു ഭൂമിയാണ്°. അതു് ഇറിഗേറ്റുചെയ്യുവന്നപ്പോൾ ഫ 0 @ ഏക്കറായി. എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ വ്യവസ്ഥയനുസരിച്ചു അപ്പോൾ അതു് മേജർ ഇറിഗേഷനിൽപെടുകയില്ലെ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ: അതിന്റെ അർത്ഥം അങ്ങിനെയല്ല. ഇറിഗേഷൻ സ്കീം അനുസരിച്ചു് ഉദ്ദേശം ഫ 0 0 ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലം വേണ്ടിവരുമെന്നുകണ്ടാൽ അതു മൈനർ ഇറിഗേഷനിൽ കൊടുക്കും. അതു് ഫ 0 ക അയാൽ പബ്ലിക്കുവർക്സ്° ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിനെ ഏല്പിച്ചുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്°. പണിക്കർ: ഈ ഡഫനിഷൻപ്രകാരം അങ്ങിനെവരും.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North)*: Sir, I rise to support this motion. I proceed on the assumption that the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi is the Hon'ble Minister. I proceed also on another assumption that only the Department of agriculture is transferred to the Minister and no other department is transferred. I assume that the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi, or the Hon'ble Member for Planters, is the Minister. With these two assumptions if the Department of agriculture alone is with the Minister, May I ask the simple question, whether the question transferring irrigation will arise in the minds of any of the Hon'ble Members in this House. That is the clinching argument which I have to make in supporting this motion.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda)*: I have to say one point in this connection. Government seem to have some inclination to give some more reform to the Minister as the Hon'ble Diwan has stated that the Hill Paddy Scheme is handed over to the Minister and what is the substantial reform I ask that is given to the Minister? My conception is that the Hill Paddy Scheme will last only for three years at the maximum. Where is the substantial grant given to the Minister? It is already started and its life will be very short. Even if you consider it with regard to the money, why not we give to the Minister the work of recruiting to the Assam Labour. The amount will be then very huge. But it will last only during the war say one year or two. So then we can say that a huge amount is transferred to the Minister. What I submit is that this is only an eyewash, Departments having life only for two years and to give an amount of 8 lakhs or 14 lakhs is not a substantial reform of transfer to the Minister. According to the spirit of our Exalted Highness and also of the Diwan President, there may be a real transfer which is permanent as the Uplift of the Depressed Classes Department or any other department which is ever lasting. What is the permanent section that is transferred? So I want that the Government in the light of the intentions, if at all it may be a real grant shall give a real grant not the Hill Paddy Scheme or the Assam Labour. Further this is not the question of the Health Department or the Panchayat Department. The difference between major and minor irrigations is very little; Whether it is Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 as the case may be, it is the same thing. So I support this motion.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: With regard to this question, first let me remark that I take it that this does not touch our Constitutional position as it is. If it was a motion that would have touched the working of the Constitutional Act or the transfer

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of subjects from one to the other, from the Diwan to the Minister or the creation of more Ministers, then most appropriately it would have come under General Administration. The working of the Constitution Act and the Reform that are expected to be introduced under the working of that Act, are not matters that will be discussed under a Public works Budget. Therefore I naturally take it that this is not intended to be a motion to touch upon the working of the Constitution Act. I would rather take it in a much more narrow sense, that is, when the irrigation department is not working satisfactorily now and to make it work more satisfactorily, whether any transfer of its executive duties should be made. That is the only interpretation that is possible to put. Otherwise under the very first point of order that I raised this motion would have been ruled out of order. Since that has not been done and as the Hon'ble Member for Mulakunnathukavu, Mr. Narayana Menon put it, we can move this cut motion also in the nature of the motion, that is limitting the scope and just trying to argue that the irrigation department would work better if the major irrigation works are also transferred to the executive head which is working the minor irrigation works. That is the only way in which this cut motion can be legally and correctly interpreted, and it is on that understanding that I venture to answer the points raised here. When we do that, there is absolutely no difficulty now in working the schemes as they are being worked now; because the minor irrigation works are all handled by the Director of Public Health and Panchayats who is not a technical officer at all. He is simply assisted by one Irrigation Overseer and an Assistant Engineer. There is nobody at all in that department who is to give very sound advice on very large schemes and that is why the minor irrigation works are being handled by that department. When we come to the vaster and bigger schemes especially schemes which not only affect our State but also other States as for example the Chalakkudi Scheme which affects vitally the requirements and needs of Travancore also. We have a different set of investigation and a different method of procedure altogether. The whole thing is raised to a much higher level of professional ability and the whole thing is placed under the Chief Engineer. That is how things are being worked. Since this is the policy that is adopted in the division of irrigation works between the two departments, no conflict, as a matter of fact arises; and if at all in any rare instance a conflict arises it is easy for the departmental heads to confer together as some times they have to do not only with regard to the major and minor irrigation as even with regard to subjects like Public Health and Medicine. Certain portions of industries are administered by the Minister and a certain portion is administered by the Director of Industries. In such cases also mutual consultation becomes necessary. This is only one more instance of that kind, and by such mutual consultation if in any case there is a conflict at all, it is easy to over-come that. That is how things are going on now. Therefore, at present no difficulty is experienced because things are going on as they are and Government do not think that because of any difficulty a change should now be made, that is all, I have to submit to this House.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Mr. President, I am glad Sir, that the motion has been sufficient to show that there are very many hon'ble members in this House who very really sympathise with the Hon'ble Minister on humanitarian grounds. The motion has been opposed by one or two hon'ble members, saying that the Minister is over-worked and therefore more departments should not be transferred to him. "Dont kill him" they say. Therefore they say at least in the name of the life of the Hon'ble Minister, let not the Irrigation Department which brings water to agricultural lands be transferred. How glad I am! How glad I am! The Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi and a few other hon'ble members, how nicely attached to the Hon'ble Minister and fighting for his life! How good? While his own friends, his party members through this cut motion are attempting to bring down upon his shoulders very great burdens. Is it not a happy spectacle to see that his real friends, not the members of his party, come to his rescue? Is it not, I ask, Sir, a beautiful spectacle to see that he has very many friends outside his party when his party wants to bring pressure upon him, burdens upon him. Is it not a spectacle which is worthy of any House of Parliament? My thanks are due to these hon'ble members on behalf of my party. But upon the merits of the case, what have they said? Nothing has been said on the merits of the case, that is against the irrigation section of the Public Works Department being transferred to the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Agriculture. Logically and consistently with the policy adopted by the Government with regard to Hill Paddy scheme the transfer ought to be made. The point raised by me prominently in moving the cut has not been answered, because no answer can be given and I submit Sir, that the Government also have not met that point. Of course, with the cleverness and ingenuity that is there, it has been stated that the proposition has to be viewed, that the motion is to point out that the irrigation section of the Public Works Department is not properly worked, and if

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transferred it will be more properly worked and on the ground that there may be a hitch here or a hitch there between major irrigation and the minor irrigation in their working. That is the line in which it was understood and attempted to be answered. It is not in that sense, Sir, that this proposition has been brought forward. The logical sequence of the actions of the Government do demand that irrigation wholly and completely which is the basis of agriculture, minor portion of it having been transferred to the Minister voluntarily and willingly, the major part of it must necessarily, go to him, is the point brought forward. About the hitch, certainly not because of the hitch, whoever said their is any hitch? Certainly not and especially when the department of the major irrigation works is managed by an hon'ble member like the member in charge of Public Works and the Minister happens to be the Minister here, is there any possibility of any hitch? I answer "no". There will not be a hitch and there has not been a hitch. And the cut motion is not the outcome of any hitch. Hitches will not be allowed to arise for both sections are working for the same end. From the stand point of logic from the standpoint of consistency, from the stand point of greater utility, it is from these standpoints that this proposition has been noted in this House for it consideration. We do not mind, Sir, if the Hon'ble Minister is given an additional burden as a result of this cut motion being accepted and acted upon. Thanking the Hon'ble Minister, friends once again, Sir, I press this motion to a division.

Motion put and carried

Deputy President: 23 for, 19 against and 3 neutrals. Motion is carried.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I submit Sir, that when the neutrals were called the Hon'ble Minister was standing. He has no right of vote. The second proviso to section 13 (1) reads as follows.—

"Provided further that the Minister and the Advocate-General shall have the right to speak in, and otherwise take part in the proceedings of, the Council and any Committee of the Council of which they may be named members, but shall not, by virtue of this provision only, be entitled to vote". I raise, this as a point of order and pray for a ruling, Sir, whether the Hon'ble Minister sitting in this House has a right of vote on any subject?

Mr. Joseph Petta *(Adur):* Mr. President, Sir, that section points out that by virtue of that provision alone he cannot vote, because he is a member, he can vote. There is express provision there.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Mr. President, I shall invite the attention of the Hon'ble House to section 6 of the Constitution Act first.—"The Minister is appointed by His Highness and holds office during His Highness' pleasure". Then follows sub-section (2) which says.—"The Minister who, for any period of six consecutive months, is not an elected member of the Legislative Council, shall, at the expiraiion of that period, cease to be Minister". That section contemplates two kinds of Ministers, Minister who is in the House as an elected member and who commands the confidence of the House and a Minister who will be functioning under peculiar circumstances who will have to be appointed even from amongst persons who are not members. That is the first thing which we have to start with. Then comes section 13 which refers to the number of members of this House.—"(1) The Legislative Council shall consist of the Diwan and fifty-eight members, of whom thirty-eight members shall be representatives elected, and the rest nominated by His Highness, in accordance with the rules made in that behalf": That is the normal thing. Then comes the proviso which refers to special members.—"Provided that His Highness may, for the purpose of any Bill introduced or proposed to be introduced in the Council, nominate not more than two members having special knowledge or experience of the subject matter of the Bill, and these persons shall, in relation to the Bill, have for the period for which they are nominated, all the rights of members of the Council, and shall be in addition to the members referred to". That contemplates the elected and nominated members numbering 58 and for special purposes one or two can be added. Section 13 (1) refers to the ordinary members and proviso No. 1 refers to special members. Now comes this proviso on which the point of order is raised.—"Provided further that the Minister and the Advocate-General shall have the right to speak in, and otherwise take part in the proceeding of, the Council and any Committee of the Council of which they may be named members, but shall not, by virtue of this provision only, be entitled to vote". My contention, Sir, in this point of order is that the word "Minister" does not contemplate only one kind of Minister as is attempted to be made out by some hon'ble members of this House. It contemplates both the classes of Ministers mentioned in section 6. The word "Minister" used there is not used in any restrictive sense, but in its true import, namely it contemplates both the

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Ministers, a Minister who need not be a member of this Council but appointed by His Highness from outside the Council for a period of 6 months or the other Minister. Along with that Minister is coupled the Advocate-General. When we read the sections regarding the Advocate-General, you will be pleased to consider the sections of the Constitution Act which deals with the functions of the Advocate-General. One of them is that he has the duty to address this House when called upon to do so. It contemplates cases where the Advocate-General as such is not a member of the House but remains the Advocate-General and occasions arise when his advice through an address made by him to the House is needed. It is the Advocate-General thus addressing the House that is contemplated here. The Hon'ble Member for Law, Mr. M. Sivarama Menon sitting here is not sitting as the Advocate-General, as explained correctly by him the other day. He is here by virtue of the nomination given to him by the Government, just as Government has nominated the Commissioner of Police, the Conservator of Forests, the Director of Public Instruction and so on. That is his position. Therefore it is that the Advocate-General cannot vote.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: From the discussion I raise on a point of order. Standing Order 26, rule 74 (2) says.—"Any member may at any time submit a point of order for the decision of the President but in doing so shall confine himself to stating the point".

Deputy President: I have asked him to explain.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: To oblige the Hon'ble Member for Planters, Sir, I shall be brief and conclude here. My position is this. The 1st proviso is that to the number of 58 members two more may be added. The 2nd proviso contemplates as to who all can take part in the proceedings of the Council.

Deputy President: In the 2nd proviso you say it is with regard to the number of members.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: In order to emphasise the point here, I was taking the House back to section 13 (1) dealing with the normal number of members being 58 and the first proviso dealing with 2 additional members. That makes 60 members. Second proviso says. Over and above these 60, there are two other members who can address the House and take part in the proceedings of the House namely the Minister an elected member or otherwise and the Advocate-General and by reason of their being given that power namely to address the House, that is, for the reason that they take part in the proceedings of the House and any Committee of this House of which the Minister and the Advocate-General may be Members, they cannot vote. So with due respect, Sir, to My floor Leader, I submit that with regard to the words "by virtue of this proviso only" it is meant that the Advocate-General and the Minister can take part in the proceedings of this House and of any Committee of which they are Members. For that reason, they cannot vote. That means in other cases also they cannot vote.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: The Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri has been trying to impress upon this House that this particular part of a section definitely means that the Minister has not got the right to vote. Unfortunately for him, he has failed to read the most important words in the section and that is "of which they may be named members" "The named members" mean a different type altogether. There are now two types of Ministers, a Minister who is named and a Minister who by virtue of the provisions of the Government of Cochin Act, though he happens to be an elected member of this House is nominated as Minister by His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin. If that simple point is understood that the word "named" is a technical word, then I plead guilty to my capacity to make anybody understand what it is. It definitely refers to the Minister who has not the right to vote, who is named a Minister and he is named a Member of any committee or a Council. I think it is clear to me, I think it is equally clear to the other Members of the House except to the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: The Minister was appointed 5 years ago. Till now he has been freely voting. Therefore, the Chair will follow that precedent. There is no necessity to raise a point of order.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: On this point of order the words read here seems to say only "Shall not by virtue of this provision only, be entitled to vote?" It only means that he shall not be entitled to vote by virtue of this provision only. The over-riding sections are—"there shall be a Legislature for the Cochin State which shall consist of His Highness and a Chamber to be known as the Cochin Legislative Council". "The Legislative Council shall consist of the Diwan and 58 Members, of whom 38 Members shall be representatives elected, and the rest nominated by His Highness, in accordance with the rules made in that behalf". Now, the Hon'ble Minister

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is one amongst the 58 Members. That, of course, does not require any argument. In the other case, there would be 58 Members and one Minister and one Advocate General, if they are appointed from non-members of the Council. The Minister is not a Minister appointed for 6 months. The privileges laid down are in section 22 (1) of the Act—"Subject to the orovisions of this Act and to the rules and Standing Orders regulating the procedure of the Legislative Council, there shall be freedom of speech in the Council, and no Member or other person entitled to take part in the proceedings of the Council shall be liable in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in the Council or any committee thereof, etc., etc.,". So, because of the other provision, he is entitled to take part in the proceedings. The next argument jumps out, what is taking part in the proceedings of the Council ? Taking part is speaking and voting.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)* : I would also invite the attention of the President to section 20 (1) of the Act.—"Save as provided in the last preceding section, all question at any sitting of the Legislative Council shall be determined by a majority of votes of the Members present and voting, other than the President or person acting as such". So, only the case of the President is mentioned. Everybody else who is present, should vote.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)* : Suppose a Council is dissolved. Then the Minister does not form a Member. He remains the Minister, till the next Council comes, he again remains the Minister and if he is not re-elected as Member he can continue in his Ministership for six months. Therefore during that period he can't vote. He can take part in the proceedings of the House and cannot vote. Similarily the Advocate-General, supposing he is nominated. He has the right to come and address the House upon any point. But he cannot take part in the voting. That is why it is said-by virtue of the provisions of this section only, they are not entitled to vote. They are always entitled to vote if they are members of this House.

Deputy President: The Minister being a Member of this House, he can vote and the precedent is that he has the right to vote.

The House rose for the day at 5-10 p.m.

N. S. RADHAKRISHNA SARMA

Secretary to the Council

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